**Jon Phillips**

**Seventh Grade Science**

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Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome back to school!  I hope that everyone had a great summer.  It is the beginning of a challenging year at Chilton Middle School.  I am looking forward to working with you and your child throughout the year.  I believe that a strong partnership between home and school is necessary to ensure that your child has a fun and successful year.  Please read through the list of classroom policies and expectations.

**I.  Student Organization**

Students will use their composition notebook on a daily basis. The last 20 pages will be dedicated to the Bellwork we do every morning. The first 80 pages will be dedicated to Notes, Activities and Labs. We will have periodic checks to determine how well your child is maintaining their notebook.

**II. Grading / Grading Policy**

Grades will be given based on the percentage of points earned on class activities, assignments, and assessments. Separate grades will be reported for each class standard.

**Tests and Quizzes**will be given periodically to assess students’ comprehension and understanding of material covered in class.  If a student is absent on the day of a test, the student is responsible for arranging to make up the test. If a students does not finish, study hall can be assigned to complete the test.

Test retakes – See separate handout on Website.

**Projects / Labs** are an important part of class.  They offer an opportunity for students to demonstrate the knowledge they have gained by the designing and constructing various real world examples. It is imperative each student attends school daily as labs are not available for make-ups.

**Absences:** Because in-class activities/labs are difficult to make up, absences can adversely affect a student’s grade. Alternative assignments can be given for work missed due to an absence but these alternatives are not as valuable as the work in class. It is very important to consider this when scheduling appointments, planning trips, etc. Students are responsible for figuring out missing assignments and notes.

* Labs – You will see an Exempt in Powerschool when absent
* Notes – Students need to obtain from a peer. Prensentations will be available on website.
* Test will need to be made up within the number of days absent.

**Classwork/Homework/Projects**.  If students were unable to finish assignments and projects in class they will be expected to finish the work at home that night. If they need time allocated we will assigned a after school work time if needed.

**Extra Credit**will not be given out. Because I accept late work, students need to complete assignments that are given in class.

**Cheating:** Obviously is not allowed and consequences will be determine.

**III. Classroom Discipline Plan**

I expect all of my students to behave appropriately in class.  Any behavior that **interrupts** my ability to teach and **other students’ ability to learn** is not appropriate behavior.  All students are expected to observe the following classroom rules:

**Be Safe:** Students use lab equipment and school supplies appropriately, walk at all times, backpacks are stowed under table, etc.

**Be Responsible.**All necessary materials should be brought to class, restroom breaks taken care of **before** class, composition books out before tardy bell rings, work efficiently, keep area clean, remain on task throughout period, do not leave until teacher has dismissed the class, and push in your seat when you leave.

**Be respectful.**  This includes respecting other people’s property, opinions and personal space. Please do not speak out of turn, raise your hand to leave your seat, etc.

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 As with any discipline plan, there are consequences for inappropriate behavior.

**Consequences could include**

Warning

Minor Referral

Practice the appropriate behavior at Lunchtime

Detention after school

Phone call to parents.

Conference with teacher.

Major referral to the Vice Principal

As with any good discipline plan we will have POSITIVE incentives as well.

These include Bobcats Bucks, which can then be used to win prizes/class rewards through weekly drawings, school wide drawings, 5 minutes early to lunch etc. In addition, Bobcat bucks can be used to buy goods at the student store, to buy donuts, tickets to dances, and various other ways throughout the school year.

**IV. Textbook Policy**

We have a class sets for Earth, Life and Physical science textbooks that will remain at school. They are not to be written in and FYI each book costs $98.

**V. Daily Routines and Procedures**

Students should know the following routines and procedures:

* Students are to enter the classroom everyday prepared.  This means that they should have materials in class and homework done.  If you are consistently unprepared, your parents will receive a phone call.
* Students should follow the agenda on the board.
* When the tardy bell rings, students shall be seated, quietly and working on the opener.
* Three restroom passes per quarter.
* All papers require a heading.  Name, Date, and Period.

**VI.  General Classroom Expected Behavior**

In order to keep the classroom running in order and neat, the following procedures will be observed.

-**Backpack Space**: During labs we move around the classroom.  Backpacks should be placed under table to create walking space for classmates.

-**Eating**:  SC01 is a science lab room. No eating or drinking is allowed.  If you have health concerns we will make arrangements to ensure you are taken care of. You 3rd period teacher will allow for a snack.

- **Drinking –** Water is allowed so long as it is only water. (No additives) Container must have a cap. Modified water bottles such as holes in cap will not be allowed.

**-Trash and Garbage** goes into the trashcan.  They do not go onto the floor or in the sink.  Please do not get up at random to discard your refuse.  Please raise your hand, wait to be called on, and ask for permission. When given permission, move toward the nearest can and discard.

-**Pencil Sharpening**:  Please raise your hand and wait for permission.  Do not automatically get up and wander the classroom.  That is distracting to not only to the teacher but fellow classmates.

-**Closing Procedures**: The teacher will dismiss students. When dismissed, your area should be clean, your seat should be pushed under the lab bench, and lab tub should be place on counter in numerical order. Teacher will check that all supplies have been return to tub assigned to your table group before leaving.

**VII. Major Themes through the year**

* Organisms and Ecosystems, Chemical Reactions, History of Earth and Earth Systems, Properties of Matter, Human Impacts, Engineering and Design, Positive Prevention Plus ( Sex Ed.)

**VIII. Parent Contact**

Please feel free to call me any time during the school year if you have any questions or concerns about your child (916) 771-1870 x43151.  I am available before or after school for conferences. **During basketball season (Oct- Dec.) and Volleyball Season (March-April) I will only be available during the mornings.**

**REMIND.COM**

Text the message **@kdfdha** (include the @ sign) to the number **561-600-9455**

You’ll then receive a text asking for your first and last name. That’s it. You’re done and I’ll be able to send you text messages about class reminders. This is not my text line, only a way for me to send out texts to all students and parents quickly and efficiently.

IX. **Supplies –** In an effort to bring the best curriculum to your child, Chilton Science incorporates the use of hands-on activities whenever possible. Many of the activities use consumable items that need to be replenished annually. To help with these recurring expenses a one-time science **donation of $10** would be greatly appreciated. Cash or check to Chilton Middle School is acceptable. If a monetary donation is not possible then a donation of household items is also highly appreciated. Thanks you in advance.

Any of the following you can donate would greatly help out.

Kleenex Balloons

Zip-locks (Freezer and sandwich) Crayons

Scissors Skewers(6, 10, and 12 inch)

White Glue Glue Sticks

Markers and Sharpies Paper Plate

Hot Glue Guns Hot Glue Sticks

Costco Size Vinegar Costco Size Baking Soda

Color Pencils Wipes

Toothpicks DOTS Candy

Again, I look forward to working closely with you to ensure the success of your child!

Sincerely,

Jon Phillips

**Name\_\_\_\_**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Period**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Any of the following you can donate would greatly help out OR a $10 donation

Kleenex Balloons

Zip-locks (Freezer and sandwich) Crayons

Scissors Skewers(6, 10, and 12 inch)

White Glue Glue Sticks

Sharpies Straws

Hot Glue Sticks Costco Size Vinegar Costco Size Baking Soda Wipss

Color Pencils

FIRST HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

**Parent and Student Signature Page**

Please sign below to indicate that you understand all of the information from the introduction letter and will follow all of the rules presented. Return this page to your teacher according to the instructions given.

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s E-mail address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Any other information you would like to share about your son or daughter.

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