

*STUDENT CONTRACT*

***Welcome to 8th Grade Science.*** In this class, we will study the Earth, Life, and Physical Sciences and how they interact with one another. Adaptation, Human Impact, and Energy will be our focus, and Environmental education will be integrated throughout our lessons. We will develop skills through lab activities, explore the engineering design process, and conduct experiments using the scientific method. Please read the requirements of this class **carefully** and refer back to them throughout the year as needed.

Class Rules

1. ***Be on time***. If you should arrive late, make sure you have a pass and come in quietly without disrupting the class.

2. ***Be on Task***. Take your assigned seat and direct your attention to the board which will tell you the Do Now, the objective for the day, and the homework to be completed before the next class.

3. ***Be Prepared***. You should have your binder, any homework, and writing utensils with you on a daily basis.

4. ***Be Considerate***. Treat each person in the class with the utmost respect. Leave the room better than you found it. You will not be dismissed until everything is cleaned up.

**Do Nows**

* Each day there will be an *Essential Question* or task posted on the board for you to begin at the start of class. These will reinforce prior knowledge and/or introduce new topics. Answers should be corrected as we review them daily and kept as a study guide for the test. Every Friday the Do Nows for the week will be collected and graded.

Homework

1. Homework should be done in a separate portion of your notebook and may be collected from time to time.

2. All assignments are to be headed with your name, period, date, and the title of the assignment.

3. All questions and answers are to be written in complete sentences unless otherwise directed.

4. Points will be deducted for lateness.

**Labs**

1. We will be doing a few hands on labs in class, AT NO TIME should students touch, eat, or play with lab materials unless instructed to by the teacher.

2. Students will be expected to clean up lab materials after every lab.

**Projects**

* There will be some long range projects assigned. You should make a plan and schedule your time wisely.

**Absences**

1. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up all assignments promptly. Exams, quizzes, and labs,should be scheduled with your teacher upon your return. If absent for one day, you will be expected to hand in assignments upon your return to class. Once lab equipment and materials are put away, you may not be able to make up the lab.

2. Any assignments not made up in a reasonable amount of time will result in a loss of credit for that assignment.

**Exams**

Review sessions will be held before each exam. Try to make every effort to attend these sessions.

**Demonstrations Of Learning (DOL)**

Frequently throughout the year, students will be given DOLs, in order to show progress on mastering a concept. These DOLs tend to be a few questions each and are only ever worth a few points. They are not announced ahead of time so as to see what the student is retaining purely from class time.

**Grading Policy**

Grades will be averaged from the following components:

* Exams and Projects
* Labs and other class work
* Homework
* Classroom performance and participation
* The grading scheme will be based off of Total Points, meaning all assignments are weighted the same, it just depends on their individual point values.
* You are expected to behave honorably. Plagiarism, copying, or any other form of cheating will result in a zero on the assignment.

I have read the Science Student Contract, and I understand all my responsibilities related to this class.

STUDENT’S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***Highlights for Parents***

Homework

Homework will be assigned on occasion. It will usually be in the form of finishing class work, however specific homework assignments may be given. The student is responsible for copying homework down and completing it.

Exams

Exams are announced *approximately* one week in advance. The amount of material presented in this course cannot be mastered in a single night, therefore, is strongly recommended that students start studying well before the date of the exam. Do Nows and other class work should be used to prepare for tests.

**Contacting the teacher**

Email – Jwhelpley@mpsnj.org

School Phone - 201-444-7400 Ext. 276

PARENT’S/GUARDIANS’S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT’S/GUARDIAN’S EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT’S/GUARDIAN’S PHONE:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_