9th GRADE PHYSICAL SCIENCE SYLLABUS

MISS BUSCH’S CONTACT INFORMATION
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**It is best to contact me by e-mail and you can expect a reply within 24 hours Monday – Friday. Thanks!

PHYSICAL SCIENCE CONTENT . . .
Welcome to 9th Grade Physical Science. I hope you all have a successful and rewarding experience in this class. Physical Science is a two-term course required for high school graduation. It is quite different than other science courses you have taken in that it is a hands-on, lab oriented class. The units we will be studying this semester include:

- Science Skills
- Matter
- Magnetism
- Motion
- Energy
- Waves
- Atoms
- Chemical Properties
- Light
- Forces
- Physical Properties
- Sound
- Energy
- Chemical Reactions
- Optics

CLASSROOM RULES AND PROCEDURES . . .
COMING TO CLASS WITH THE APPROPRIATE MATERIALS - Items that a student is to bring to class on a daily basis include: your textbook, a folder for work sheets, notebook, a pen or pencil, your planning calendar, and a scientific calculator. I highly suggest using a 3-ring binder, with tab dividers, to stay organized.

TARDIES - Be in your seats ready to work when the bell rings. Start each class time with a “Mind Mover.”

MIND MOVERS – If you are absent from class, you are expected to make up the Mind Mover for the day that you were absent. Miss Busch will provide the Mind Mover prompt for you from the day(s) you were absent from class.

ABSENCES - Excellent attendance is very important in this class -- it is impossible to make up many of the labs in a 20-minute AAA session or at home. It is your responsibility to check with Miss Busch before school, after school, or during AAA to find out what you have missed while you were absent. During class is not the appropriate time to find out about absent work. You have a student file that Miss Busch will put your missed work in. Please still talk to Miss Busch to get all of the details. Labs will have to be made up before or after school, or during AAA to receive any credit on the assignment. When you turn in a make-up assignment, you must write "Late" on it or you may be docked for turning in a late assignment. You have 2 days for every day you are absent to make up your work.

TREAT A SUBSTITUTE EXACTLY THE SAME (with the same respect) AS YOU WOULD A TEACHER - Always do what the substitute says, even if it does not follow normal classroom procedures.

GRADING - Grades will follow the following percentages: 99% and up A+, 93% and up A, 90% and up A-, 87% and up B+, 83% and up B, 80% and up B-, 77% and up C+, 73% and up C, 70% and up C-, 67% and up D+, 63% and up D, 60% and up D-. The quarter grade will be based on 5% Mind Movers, 30% homework and labs, and 65% tests and quizzes.

EXTRA CREDIT – Extra credit is EXTRA work – by the student; not the teacher. To earn extra credit in Miss Busch’s Physical Science class, it is up to the student to come up with an extra credit assignment and how much it will improve their overall grade. The student will create standards for how the assignment is assessed. Additionally, the student will find a peer to assess the extra credit based on the standards determined by the student. All extra credit must be approved by Miss Busch. Extra credit is allowed only if the student has all of their work turned in by the time of the extra credit proposal and again by the end of the extra credit assignment.
The flip side!

**LATE WORK** – Each student is given 3 late work passes to use on assignments throughout the term. There will be a reward at the end of the term for not using the late work passes. Once the late work passes are used up, 10% will be taken off the total for each day late.

**AAA** - AAA should be used to get individual help or to do make-up work. You must have work to do during AAA, although you may bring in work from other classes. A semi-quiet environment will be maintained.

**CELL PHONES** – Cell phones are not allowed in class, which includes use as a calculator. This is your warning. If I see your phone out, I will take it and you can get it back at the end of the day. There is a “Phone Beaker” provided at the front of the room if you would like to make class time temptation-free. One of the best gifts you can give somebody is your quality attention!

**IPODS** – Listening to music is allowed only during individual work time.

**EXIT & RETURN** – I expect that you have all needed materials for class when you enter the room. I also expect that you have used the bathroom during passing time. I understand that at times you may forget items or really need to use the bathroom. I do not want you leaving the classroom to become an issue. If it does, I will not allow any hall passes for that individual that is constantly not prepared. One student is allowed out at a time. You do not need to ask for permission to leave – just use your best judgment on a good time to leave. Please sign out by the door and take the goggles with you to serve as your hall pass.

**GENERAL CLASS EXPECTATIONS** – Respect each other and their properties. Raise your hand when asking or answering a question. Leave the classroom and supplies better than you found them.

**I AM HERE TO HELP . . .**

Please come see me right away if you feel like you are getting behind. I will do everything I can to help you master the material presented in Physical Science. That being said, this course builds from day one and I would like to impress upon you the importance of not allowing yourself to fall behind. I am here to help you succeed, so please come to me if you need help, have any questions, or want to be more challenged in class!

RESPECT --RESPONSIBILITY --RESOURCEFULNESS
YOU'VE GOT IT COVERED.