

7th Grade Science

School Year 2016-2017
Gresham Middle School
Parent Conference Hours: By appointment
Please call or email for an appointment
Phone: 689-1430

Teacher: Jill Schwahn



TEXTBOOK: Holt McDougal Integrated Science, Tennessee Standards Edition, 2010

DESCRIPTION:

This year, your child will engage in the study of Earth Science (minerals, rock cycle, plate tectonics, earth's layers), Physical Science (force and motion, simple machines and work, properties and types of waves), Life Science (cells, flow of matter and energy, levels of organization, and heredity), and Science and Engineering Practices.

GOAL:

Utilize methods of inquiry and newly implemented Common Core State Standards in an effort to gain knowledge across several science disciplines while developing 21st century skills, science and engineering practices, and college and career readiness.

EVALUATION:

The following categories will be evaluated for grades:

Honors Science

Fall Semester

80% Standards Based Assessments
10% Class work and homework
10% District Mid-Term

Spring Semester

75% Standards Based Assessments
10% Class work and homework
15% TCAP

Regular Science

Fall Semester

90% Standards Based Assessments
10% Class work and homework

Spring Semester

75% Standards Based Assessments
10% Classwork and homework
15% TCAP

Knox County Schools

Grading Scale

A 93-100
B 85-92
C 75-84
D 70-74
F 69 and below

Standards Based Grading Scale:

Exceeding: 100-93
Meeting: 92-85
Approaching: 84-75
Attempting: 74-70
Insufficient Evidence: 69 and below

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Course Policies

Make-up work

Students will obtain and complete all missed work and/or notes due to absences.

Students/guardians can request work at least 48 hours in advance of an absence.

Labs may or may not be able to be made up.

Missed work can be picked up from the absent work location in the classroom, notes can be obtained from a classmate, missed assessments will be made up from 8am-9am.

Students have one week to complete missing assignments due to absence before additional measures are taken.

Standards Based Grading

Due to the nature of Standards Based Grading, all assignments must be completed. See 7th Grade Letter for more information about Standards Based Grading.

Remediation/retake policy

The deadline to remediate, retake and replace quizzes will be the end of unit assessment.

Students are expected to remediate as soon as they identify an area of weakness prior to the assessment.

I will meet with the student to review their work, re-teach items as needed, and re-assess 7:30am – 8:30am.

Extra Credit

Due to the nature of Standards Based Grading, extra credit is not offered. Instead, students have ample opportunities to demonstrate mastery of taught concepts.

Student Conduct & Discipline

All students will follow school, team and classroom expectations.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to complete their own assignments and to honestly complete tests and quizzes without aid from others. Students caught cheating, plagiarizing and copying from others will face disciplinary action.

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Board Policy on Religion in the Curriculum

- The Board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion—and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective and respectful manner in accordance with the following:
 - 1. Music, art, literature, or drama with a religious theme or basis are permitted as part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;
 - 2. The emphasis on religious themes in the arts, literature and history shall be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of these areas. Such studies shall never foster any particular religious tenets or demean any religious beliefs; and
 - 3. Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated. For example, students are free to express religious belief or non-belief in compositions, art forms, music, speech and debate.