Team Cedar – Ms. Stortz
Physical Science Syllabus: 2016-2017

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Physical Science Description/Purpose

Physical Science is a yearlong course, which includes an introduction to fundamental concepts of physics, chemistry, astronomy, and earth science. Practical applications and technology will be used to illustrate concepts in laboratory-based situations. This course will also enhance personal scientific literacy needed in our global community. Units of study include:

- Introduction to Physical Science
- Motion and Forces
- Energy
- Astronomy
- Atomic Structure and Behavior
- Chemical Reactions
- Earth Systems

Course Goals and Learning Objectives

- Students will gather, interpret, and analyze data.
- Students will design and perform good scientific experiments.
- Students will work with a variety of technologies.
- Students will exhibit social and ethical responsibility.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to learn independently and cooperatively.
- Students will gain an awareness of their role in the global community.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites. This is an introductory course that prepares students for the upper level courses in Chemistry, Physics, and Earth Systems in 10-12th grade.

Required Textbooks and Equipment

- Textbook: "CPO Physical, Earth and Space Science"
  - Accessible online http://curiosityplace.schoolspecialty.com/home?lpanel=1
- Notebook
- Folder
- Pencil or Pen (blue or black)

Classroom Procedures and Policies

- Be respectful to people and property
  - Follow directions given the first time
  - Actively listen to the person who is speaking
  - Keep your hands to yourself
  - No offensive language
  - No food, candy or drinks in class. Water is permitted.

- Be prepared and ready to learn
  - Bring all materials to class every day
  - Work on your assignments to the best of your ability and have questions if/when you are stuck
  - Take an active part in class activities. Learn something!
  - Participate! Help solve problems on the board, ask questions, check answers.

- Check the webpage for help, calendar, and other useful information
- DO NOT BRING HATS AND JACKETS TO CLASS

- Organize yourself
  - Keep all your science assignments, notes, and handouts in your science notebook or binder
  - Use some sort of planner to keep track of important dates…school provided planner, your phone, something else?
  - Make sure your name and hour are always included on things that are handed in.

- Attend class and be prompt
  - Be in your seat and ready to work when the bell rings
  - Remain in your seat until the bell at the end of the hour.
  - Come to class every day – you need to be here to learn the material
  - It is your responsibility to get missing work if you are absent. Plan ahead.
  - IF YOU ARE GONE FROM CLASS FOR MORE THAN 10 MINUTES YOU ARE CONSIDERED ABSENT
  - IF YOU LEAVE CLASS EARLY YOU ARE CONSIDERED ABSENT

- Electronics are only allowed when given permission from your teacher and used for school purposes only. All other times, electronics should remain silent and out of sight.

Student Code of Conduct

All students are expected to adhere to the Southwest High School and Minneapolis District discipline policy. It is designed to promote a safe and respectful learning environment. For more information about your rights and responsibilities consult your Southwest Student/Parent Handbook or access online.

Academic Integrity

It is expected that members of this class will observe strict policies of academic honesty and will be respectful of each other. Any instances in which cheating, including plagiarism and unauthorized use of copyrighted materials, computer accounts, or someone else's work is determined, will be referred to Student Services and will be investigated to its full extent.

Cheating

Cheating includes copying another student, copying from a source without citing it, using notes on a test when not authorized, and helping another student on individual work. Cheating will result in redoing the assessment, possibly in a different form for all parties involved.

Grading

The MYP Criteria and rubrics will be used to determine your grade. Only summative assessments will be assessed. Students will have multiple opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge on each topic in class. The students' growth will be reflected in the final grade. Lower scores are expected at the beginning of the year and should improve throughout the year. Everything we do in class is to prepare students for these assessments. Daily work will be treated as formal assessments and will not be graded. Think of it like practice. This is where we learn, make mistakes, and improve. It's still very important but will not be factored into the grade. The summative assessments will be like the game. This is where we keep score and see how you do.

The grade book will show five categories. The first four categories will be Criterion A-D and will be worth 0 percent. The fifth category will be your final grade and will only have a grade at mid-quarter and end of term. Growth across the four Criterion will determine your final grade. Missed

assessments will lower the opportunity to show growth and should be made up if possible. Failure to have a minimum of 60% of the assessments will result in an incomplete for the class. This is a works in progress system and tweaks may need to be made at the end of a quarter to ensure grades are reflective of students' learning.

- **Criterion A: Knowledge & Understanding**
  - Explain scientific knowledge
  - Apply scientific knowledge and understanding to solve problems
  - Analyze and evaluate information to make scientifically supported judgments

- **Criterion B: Inquiring and Designing**
  - Explain a scientific problem or question to be tested by a scientific investigation
  - Formulate a testable hypothesis and explain it using scientific reasoning
  - Explain how to manipulate variables and explain how data will be collected
  - Design scientific investigations

- **Criterion C: Processing and evaluating**
  - Present collected and transformed data
  - Interpret data and explain results using scientific reasoning
  - Evaluate the validity of a hypothesis based on the outcome of a scientific investigation
  - Evaluate the validity of the method
  - Explain improvements or extensions to the method

- **Criterion D: Reflecting on the Impacts of Science**
  - Explain the ways in which science is applied and used to address a specific problem or issue
  - Discuss and evaluate the various implications of using science and its application to solve a specific problem or issue
  - Apply scientific language effectively
  - Document the work of others and sources of information used

Grade scale for MYP Rubric

A = 8-7 B = 6-5 C = 4-3 D = 2 F = 1-0

* MPS online grading system will calculate to include A-/B+/B-/etc. are visible when you login to parent or student portal.

Please sign and return the portion below that you have read and agree with the above procedures and guidelines. If you have any questions please feel free to e-mail me or check my website for more information. Thx, Ms. Stortz

_____ _____

Parent Signature Student Signature