



Northwestern Middle School
Subject: On-Level and TAG/Advanced Physical Science
Syllabus 2019-20
Grade: 8

Teachers: Joey Brock, Julie Godfrey, Katie Long, Chas Martin, Nakeesha Purvis

Textbook(s): HMH Georgia Science. 2018. Replacement cost: \$88.20

Online Textbook: There is a password protected website that allows students to access the Student Interactive Edition of the text. Individual teachers will share this information with their classes.

Course Description:

The 8th Grade Physical Science curriculum provides students with the necessary knowledge and skills to transition from elementary physical science standards to high school physical science standards (see Fulton County System-wide Science Vertical Instructional Framework). The course is designed to provide students with an introductory overview of the common concepts in physical science including but not limited to the nature of matter, laws of conservation of matter and energy, motion, forces, and energy transformation. These concepts are investigated through observing, collecting, summarizing, analyzing, and presenting results of scientific investigations and fieldwork designed for students to develop the appropriate skills in science as inquiry.

Course Outline:

First Semester	Second Semester
Chemistry	Energy and It's Transformation
Force and Motion	Waves
Energy and It's Transformation	Electricity and Magnetism

Teacher/Parent Communication:

- Email – is the most efficient way to contact teachers
- Conferences – may be scheduled based on each student's needs
- Interim Report Cards – come home every 4 ½ weeks
- Infinite Campus – please check frequently for your child's progress

- Mr. Brock's email is brockj1@fultonschools.org
- Ms. Godfrey's email is godfreyj@fultonschools.org
- Ms. Long's email is longk@fultonschools.org
- Ms. Martin's email is martinc6@fultonschools.org
- Ms. Purvis' email is purvisn@fultonschools.org

Please ensure you are also registered for Infinite Campus. Grades will be posted to Infinite Campus within 2 weeks of test dates or project/assignment due dates.

Grading:

- Summative Assessments (tests, projects): 60%
- Formative Assessments (quizzes, labs, performance assessments): 35%
- Homework: 5%

Fulton County Grading Scale:

- A: 100-90
- B: 89-80
- C: 79-70
- F: 69 and below

Recovery Policy:

Only tests are eligible for recovery

Only students scoring lower than an 80% on original test are eligible if they complete the following steps:

Student must make test corrections

Student must attend at least one help session

Student must complete all work given within the unit/recovery assignment

Student must complete the process within 2 weeks of receiving the grade

80% is the highest grade student is able to receive after recovery.

Study Guide Policy:

Students at Northwestern Middle School will be provided a study guide to use when studying for their assessments. This study guide will include key vocabulary and essential questions to be answered. This guide will be given at least a week prior to the test and answers will be provided in class. The study guide questions are a guide to the types of questions they may see on the test.

Major and Minor Assignment Late Work Policy

Due date: Due on the assigned due date.

Point Penalty: Five point penalty per day for formative and summative assignments up to 10 points.

Help Sessions:

Students may attend the scheduled help session of any science teacher on the 8th grade hall.

Teacher	Day	Room	Time
Long	Tuesday	801	8:05 AM
Godfrey	Wednesday	804	8:05 AM
Martin	Thursday	803	4:05 PM
Brock	Thursday	802	8:05 AM
Purvis	Friday	819	8:05 AM

Absence Make-Up Procedures (FCBOE Policy JBD):

Upon returning to school following an absence, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the teachers to request make-up work. Make-up work must be completed by the student within the time specified by the teacher. At NMS, students will be given the same amount of time to make up the work as the student was absent unless other arrangements are mutually agreed upon. The student will receive the actual grade on the make-up work if the absence was “excused.”

Cell Phone/Electronics Policy:

Cell phones are not permitted in the classroom.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic honesty is very important at Northwestern Middle School. If a student is caught cheating on a major assessment, he or she will be referred to administration for further disciplinary action. In addition, plagiarism in any form is not accepted. Plagiarized work may receive a grade of zero and referral for academic dishonesty. It is the responsibility of both the student and the parent to be aware of what constitutes plagiarism and its consequences.

All plagiarizing will result in the following:

Parents will be notified

Students will re-do the assignment or an alternative assignment

Possible administrative referral

TAG/Advanced Academic Probation:

Students failing to meet the Continuation Criteria are automatically placed on probation. Probation may last for as little as one grading period but no more than one school year. Parents must be notified in writing when a student is placed on probation. A written plan explaining how a student can be removed from probationary status will be included in notification to the parent and student. In placing a student on probation, it should be considered that unsatisfactory performance in a content area of service would be documented with a grade < 80.

Advanced/TAG Student Performance Standards:

Advanced students will develop more complex research methods and independent study skills, which allows for the in-depth learning of self-selected topics within the area of study.

Advanced students will develop and practice creative thinking and creative problem-solving skills with a variety of complex topics within the area of study, to be generators of ideas and products original to the students.

Advanced students will develop and practice higher-order and critical thinking skills in an area of study.

Advanced students will develop improved communication skills that incorporate new techniques, materials, and formats in the development of products and ideas that will be shared with adults and peers.



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Please sign below indicating that you have read the syllabus and plagiarism policy and return to your teacher by Thursday, August 29th. Keep the syllabus for future reference.

Student Printed Name: _____

Students Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Phone Number(s): _____

Parent E-mail Address: _____