**Grading:**

Grades are viewable in Infinite Campus with the following categories and weights:

* Minor – 60%

Ex: Classwork, Participation, learning the content and more.

* Major – 40%

Ex: Quizzes, Tests, Projects, proving you know it.

Because students are expected to master the content, grade recovery will be ongoing throughout the school year as each module is completed. Academic dishonesty (cheating) will result in the student receiving NO CREDIT for that graded item and can result in disciplinary action. The grade will have to be recovered during afterschool tutoring hours with an alternate assignment ​

**Make-up work:** Classwork will be found in Canvas. All students will have access to the assignments as soon as they are posted. Therefore, all students returning from absences will be expected to turn in the missed work within 5 days of returning.

**Tutoring:** Wednesdays after school until 3:00PM or by appointment

**Communication:** Email is the primary and preferred method of communication. Any emergency communication must go through the Main Office - 706-772-8140

**Environmental Science**

Mr. Wm Saunders-Cummings

Email: SaundWi@BOE.richmond.k12.ga.us  
Cell Phone:

**Course Description:**

During this course, students will focus on human population growth, natural resources, and ecosystem dynamics. The aim of this course is to increase students’ knowledge of the environmental challenges of today, while continuing to cultivate scientific critical thinking skills. I believe your experience in environmental science will be one to remember— the labs are engaging, and the content is a great segue into upper level scientific thinking. Plan to actively participate in class, complete all assignments thoughtfully and on time, and to study regularly outside of class.

Students learn through various means; therefore, assignments will include opportunities to write about, visualize, and experience the concepts being studied. Assignments will be carried across curriculum lines as math skills are utilized to manipulate collected data and writing skills are employed in reporting scientific findings to prepare the learner for the global community by improving higher order thinking and decision-making abilities. The ultimate goal is to make science enjoyable while constructing a solid foundation upon which to build scientific knowledge.

**Class Expectations:**

**Be on-time and prepared to participate.** This means students will be in their seats ready to engage in the assignment when the bell rings.

**Be respectful to all members of the classroom.** Common courtesy is expected from all people in the classroom.

**All laboratory safety procedures and rules must be followed**. This is not negotiable; failure to follow safety rules is considered a serious offense and will result in immediate removal from the activity and loss of the grade (NO CREDIT).

**All county and school policies will be enforced.**

**Cells phones, tablets and headphones are not allowed without direct permission.**

**No personal hygiene products may be used *in the room*.**

**In the event of disruptive behavior:**

The following steps will be taken:

* 1st Offense: Verbal Warning
* 2nd Offense: Individual counseling
* 3rd Offense: Call to Parent(s)/Guardian(s)
* 4th Offense: Office Referral

**Serious offenses will result in an immediate office referral.**

**Materials:**

**Required:**

* Computer (school issued preferred)
* Writing implement (pen/pencil)
* Composition book (preferred) or notebook or three ring binder and paper

**Suggested materials:**

* Colored pencils or fine point markers

**Expectations of a Science Student​**

* Follow all established rules. ​
* Be willing to make mistakes so you can learn from them. ​
* Review course materials regularly. ​
* Be willing to push your own boundaries every day. ​
* Be inquisitive…ask questions, ask questions, ask questions!

Passes out of classes are for emergencies only. Abuse will result loss of the privilege.

**Topic Outline For The Year**​

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The environmental science curriculum is based on six modules that integrate the Georgia Standards of Excellence for environmental science. These modules are presented with an overall unifying theme and will follow this sequence: ​

1. Think like a Scientist
2. Rhythms of Planet Earth
3. Humans on Earth
4. Patterns of heredity and selection​
5. Sustaining Planet Earth

*This syllabus is subject to change if required.*

*Students will be supplied with an updated syllabus one school week prior to changes being implemented.*

*We are always in need of the following for our class: ​*

* Tissues​
* Colored copy paper​
* White school glue​
* Colored pencils​
* Pencils​
* Clorox wipes​
* Paper towels​
* Magic Erasers©​