Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s):

Welcome to Mrs. Ward’s science class! I have been a teacher in Richmond County for 18 years. I look forward to getting to know you and your child, as well as having a productive school year. In order to have a successful year, my classroom expectations are listed below. Please communicate with me via Canvas or email. Turn in syllabus as an assignment in canvas and then use tools to sign and date or turn in hard copy to teacher. We will be learning through a variety of instructional methods, and your son or daughter will have many opportunities for learning, growth, and achievement. Thank you for being an integral part of your child’s eighth grade year.

Course Description

The **Eighth Grade Georgia Standards of Excellence for Science** are designed to give all students

the necessary skills for a smooth transition from elementary physical science standards to high

school physical science standards. The purpose is to give all students an overview of common

strands in physical science including, but not limited to, the nature of matter, conservation of

energy, energy transformations, conservation of matter, kinematics, and dynamics. These

standards are not intended in any way to take the place of the high school physical science

standards.

Eighth grade students keep records of their observations, use those records to analyze the data

they collect, recognize patterns in the data, use simple charts and graphs to represent the

relationships they see, and find more than one way to interpret their findings. They develop

conceptual understanding of the laws of conservation of matter and conservation of energy, are

able to explain the characteristics of the motion of an object (speed, acceleration) and the way

that forces may change the state of motion of an object. They use what they observe to explain

the difference between physical and chemical changes and cause and effect relationships

between force, mass, and the motion of objects. Students in eighth grade construct explanations

based on evidence on the difference and similarities between electromagnetic and mechanical

waves. Eighth graders plan and carry out investigations, describe observations, and show

information in graphical form. The students replicate investigations and compare results to find

similarities and differences. (Georgia Department of Education, Georgia Standards of Excellence)

We will study 7 Units and Review all of 8th grade. Each unit will vary in length and prepare your student for success.

| Unit and key Point | Unit and Key Point |
| --- | --- |
| Unit 0: Think Like a ScientistUnit 1A: Structure and Properties of Matter/Classifying and  Conserving/Atomic StructureUnit 1B: Structure and Properties of Matter/States and PropertiesUnit 2: Interaction of Energy and Matter | Unit 3: WavesUnit 4: Force and MotionUnit 5: Electricity and Magnetism8th Grade Review: Show What you Know |

Classroom Supplies (In addition to school basic list)

3-4 Composition Books (Labs/Notes and Science Fair)

Composition Books

Your student is responsible for having two composition books. The purpose of the composition book is to keep students organized as we progress through our units. They will keep Do Nows, standards, notes, and lesson summarizers in their compositions books (be prepared to upload pictures into canvas as requested by the teacher or use them to take open notebook quizzes). Compositions books will be used as a place to keep labs and lab notes.

Grade Percentages (Students are responsible for calculating the grade or checking infinite campus from their launch Pad)

* Homework- 10% Classwork- 40%
* Labs- 20% Unit Tests/Quizzes/Performance Tasks- 30%

Homework Grade

Each student will begin a nine-week period with a 100 homework average, and if homework is turned in on time, the student will maintain a 100 homework average. Each time a homework assignment is not completed, 5 points will be deducted from the student’s homework grade. No late homework assignments will be accepted, unless a student has an excused absence. It is the student’s responsibility to turn in late homework with the excuse via Canvas (Teacher will open assignments as needed with an excuse).

Science Journals/lab notebook (Some will be word documents)

Throughout the school year students will write and complete science labs and important vocabulary activities. These labs count as 20% of the students’ grades. Students must follow formal report writing to get the maximum amount of points.

**Classroom Expectations for Students and Parents/Guardians**

Behavioral Expectations for Students

* Have Materials Ready to Use When Class Begins.
* Follow Directions the First Time They Are Given.
* Wait to Be Recognized Before You Speak or Leave Your Seat.
* Listen Attentively.
* Speak Respectfully to Everyone.
* Complete All Assignments.
* NO CELL PHONES or OTHER OUTSIDE TECHNOLOGIES!

\*\*\*The Richmond County Board of Education discipline policy will be strictly enforced to minimize disruptions and misbehavior. \*\*\*

The vision of our school Glenn Hills Middle School is creating a model middle school that inspires students to impact their community and the mission is providing skills that are essential for students to become positive, productive, and resourceful citizens of society, thus communication between us is vital to your child’s success. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at **wardlu@richmond.k12.ga.us** call the school at **706-796-4705,**or contact me via Canvas. Please upload signed syllabus in canvas or return to your teacher. I am looking forward to a great school year together!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lucinda Ward

We received and reviewed the 8th grade science syllabus for 2021-2022

Print Student Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Parent/Guardian Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_