**8th Grade**

**Ms. Garnett**

**Course Syllabus**

Dear Parents and students,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! I am excited that your child is in my *Honors* Physical Science class this year. My mission as your child’s science teacher is to help him or her reach academic success. I have included some information about the curriculum schedule and expectations.

**Course Description and Objectives**

The students will develop a strong foundation in Physical Science and master Academic Knowledge and Skills in the areas of new concepts and skills to maintain include:

1. Lab safety practices
2. Identification and use of lab equipment
3. Use of the metric system
4. The Scientific Method and

Engineering Design Process

1. Scientific measurement
2. CER Format /Scientific Writing
3. STEM Based Learning/Inquiry

**Textbook**

Inspire Science Workbooks (The textbook is available online in launchpad as well)

**Unit/Concept Names**

Unit 1: Properties of Matter

Unit 2: Reactions

Unit 3A: Energy

Unit 3B: Energy (Electricity & Magnetism)

Unit 4: Force and Motion

Unit 5: Waves

**Richmond County Board of Education Grading Policy**

* Minor Grades 60% (Quizzes and Classwork)
  + **Minimum number** of minor grades per 6-week progress report period = **5**
* Major Grades 40% (Unit Tests, Research Papers, Projects and Culminating Assessments)
  + **Minimum number** of major grades per 6-week progress report period = **2**

**Academic Grading Scale**

A (90-100) B (80-89) C (75-79) D (70-74) F (below 70)

* Parents are encouraged to monitor their child’s grades using the district Infinite Campus Parent Portal.
* Please contact the front office at 706-592-3730 for information to gain access to Infinite Campus.

**Academic Dishonesty**

The Student Code of Conduct, Rule 1(A)(t), states that no student shall cheat, alter records, plagiarize, receive unauthorized assistance, or assist another in any type of academic dishonesty. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty will be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher and a supervising administrator, taking into consideration any written materials, observation, or information from witnesses. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the task may be entered as “incomplete” and the student required to redo the assignment or retake the assessment.

**Late Work**

Late work is defined as assignments that are submitted after the specified deadline. This does not apply to work submitted late due to absence from school. Students are expected to submit assignments on time. Multiple incidents of late work may result in teacher-student-parent conferences to examine and correct the student’s work habits. Graded assignments that are submitted late should be scored to accurately reflect the level of mastery of standards.

**Make-up Work**

Students are expected to make-up assignments and assessments that were missed due to absence from school. Students are responsible for asking teachers for the make-up work upon returning to class. Make-up work should be completed by the student within the time specified by the teacher. Teachers should provide reasonable timelines for completing make-up work. Generally, such work should be completed within 5 days of returning to school. A student should not be required to take a quiz or test on their first day back at school if the assessment was first announced during their absence. Graded assignments should be scored to accurately reflect the level of mastery of standards.

**Homework**

All assignments and or projects not completed during class, should be completed at home.

**Relearn & Reassess (R&R Procedures)**

Students can submit a relearning plan for any **major assessment**. Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, a student will be given a minimum of two opportunities to be reassessed. Students scoring below 70 on a major assessment are expected to complete a relearning plan unless exempted with parent approval.

Teachers have discretion to determine if R&R opportunities will be given for any **minor assessment**.

**Cell phones** are ***NOT*** permitted in class, per school policy, and should not be seen nor heard. Students should turn cell phones off and place them in their bookbags.

* First offense will receive an explicit verbal warning.
* Further offense will receive a parent phone call, and taken until the end of the day
* Repeated offenses will result in phone confiscation. In this case, a parent will need to request the phone be returned in person.

**Classroom Procedures & Expectations**

1. Respect yourself, other students, school property, and the teacher (substitutes too) ALWAYS!

2. Do NOT interfere with other students right to learn.

3. Come to class prepared with all materials each day (including an open mind and a positive attitude.)

4. Class begins the moment the bell rings. All students should be seated in their ASSIGNED seats. An official pass must accompany all late arrivals.

5. Always follow ALL safety rules in the laboratory AND classroom (i.e. absolutely NO eating or drinking in the classroom at any time)

6. No cell phones during class.

7. Stay on task / remain in your seat.

(These are in addition to all school rules in the student and parent handbook.)

**Course Materials**

Textbook, Chromebook

**Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further guidance on Richmond County School System’s policies and procedures.**

**My contact information: Email:** Garnho@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us

**Remind messages**: Hgarnett

**Pine Hill Middle School Phone Number:** 706-592-3730

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Please sign and return this portion of the syllabus to affirm that you have reviewed this document:

Student’s Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_