Invention and Innovation

Ashley Exantus   **Email:** exantas@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us   **Remind Code:** @2bb6hg9

Welcome:

My name is Ashley Exantus (pronounced x zan tus) and I will be teaching the 7th grade Invention and Innovation. I have been teaching for eleven years and have two wonderful children, Exavier (11) and Archer (8). We have lived in Georgia for 8 years due to my husband being active duty in the U.S. Army but are originally from Florida. I have a Bachelor degree in Elementary Educations from Florida State University and a Master in Science with a focus in STEM from Walden University.

I am excited to start this year with the fantastic opportunity to work with 6th grade students and parents at A.R. Johnson. I know that is takes everyone working together to ensure students have a positive learning environment that allows them to be successful.

Course Overview:

In the Invention and Innovation course, students will work individually, and in groups, to examine and solve societal problems through research, data collection, design, experimentation, and technology selection to produce a functional invention/innovation. Students will study the history of inventions and innovations, their impact on society, and how technologies have changed over time. Using the engineering design process, students will create a solution to a problem while demonstrating proper safety techniques in the lab. Students will also examine the process for patenting and protecting their inventions and innovations. The Invention and Innovation course reinforces the areas of math science, social studies, and language arts through practical application and/or hands on activities. Exposure to Engineering and Technology related careers, work ethics and leadership skills will be important components in this course.

Key Concepts:

- Steps in the Engineering Design Process
- Technological system
- Inventions
- Innovations
- Communication
- Problem Solving and Critical Thinking
- Technical Skills
- Career Development

LaunchPad, Canvas, and Textbook:

- Launchpad is our single sign on platform. All the apps/webtools that students will access throughout the school year, in all their courses, can be found here. You may also download the Classlink app to your device to access Launchpad from your phone or tablet.
- Our learning management system, Canvas, can be found in each student's Launchpad. The courses they are registered for will be displayed on the Dashboard in Canvas. Click on each course to find announcements, assignments, and all online instruction. You may also download the Canvas app for parents and the Canvas app for students to your cell phone or tablet.
- There is no textbook for this course.

Materials List:

- Pencil(s)
- Graphing Composition Notebook

Grading Policy:

Middle and High school student performance will be recorded and reported in all courses by numerical grades, based on a 100-point scale.
- Calculation of Final Grades Final grades will be determined by the cumulative semester average using the following criteria:

- **Minor Grades** = 60% Examples include quizzes, labs, and other graded assignments to assess certain standards in a unit of study. Minimum number of minor grades per 6-week progress report period = 5
- **Major Grades** = 40% Examples include unit tests, essays, research papers, project-based assignments, and other culminating assessments to measure mastery of standards that comprise a unit of study. Minimum number of major grades per 6-week progress report period = 2

Late/Missing Assignments:

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 through an academic contract.

Scores may be reduced by 5% per school day for a 25% maximum reduction (five school days).

Late work submitted after the fifth school day will only be accepted at the teacher's discretion.

Relearn/Reassess:

Students who perform below 70% on a major assignment will be given the opportunity to relearn and reassess to show improvement in their mastery of the standard.

Students will submit a Relearning Plan as part of this process. This plan should include:

- Analysis of their errors or misconceptions on the previous major assignment.
- Complete assignments provided to relearn the content for mastery. Students may also attend a tutoring session.
- Complete and turn in any missing assignments.
- Commit to date(s) and time(s) to redo the assignment or retake the assessment.
- Share the plan with their parent and teacher for approval and signatures.

Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, as determined by the teacher, student should be given a minimum of one opportunity to be reassessed.

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

Tutoring:

Tutoring is available as needed by appointment only. Please contact teacher if you are interested.

Classroom Management Policy:

Expectations:	Consequences:	Positive Consequences:
1. Be on time and be prepared.	Warning	Free Time
2. Be respectful of yourself, the teacher, school staff, and others.	Parent Call/email	Treats
	Time-out with another teacher	Good Grades
3. Respect the property of others.	Detention	
4. No personal electronics	Office Referral	

Professional Attire:

Students are to dress professionally every Wednesday to develop an understanding of professional attire in careers and industries. This requirement is aligned with GADOE Standard 1 - Demonstrate employability skills required by business and industry.