Lucy C. Laney High 2022-2023 School Year

Instructor: Dr. Shannon Crawford, Ph.D. Email: crawfsh1@richmond.k12.ga.us

Parents: The best way to contact me is through email. I do my best to answer your questions within a day. Each of my classes also has a Remind code that I will use to update parents and students about important dates and/or upcoming tests or projects. The Remind code for Biology is db428k.

The course curriculum is based on the state’s biology curriculum and is designed to prepare students for the Georgia Milestones Biology EOC Assessment at the end of the year. Please note: the Georgia Biology EOC Assessment will be worth 20% of the final course grade.

1. Course Description and Requirements This course includes laboratory work, study of specimens, projects, and a thorough understanding of scientific inquiry. Course content encompasses interrelationships of living things, levels of biological organization, cellular biology, biochemistry, genetics, and evolution. Students should be prepared to conduct projects and write a formal lab report. Instruction centers around inquiry-based learning that is incorporated into class activities. Learning activities include teacher-lead instruction, group work, student seatwork, project-based learning, and lab exercises with both student-choice and teacher-choice grouping. Students can expect to start each day with a bell ringer assignment followed by learning activities and/or lecture. At times students will work independently from the teacher in order to achieve student autonomy expected of upper school students. Classes are structured to utilize every minute for learning and assessing understanding. Real world application is a daily objective. Higher-level thinking will be incorporated into each lesson as well as use of technology when applicable to increase student achievement. Students are expected to participate in all activities and actively engage and ask questions during teacher-led lecture. Students are also expected to review and study the content covered in class outside of school daily.
2. Class Expectations • Students are expected to be present and active members of the classroom each and every day. • Students are expected to come to class prepared with all necessary materials and completed assignments to learn and participate in all lectures and activities. • Students are expected to be respectful of the teacher, the classroom, and their peers.
3. Class Discipline: Students who are not acting present, coming prepared, and being respectful will earn one of the following consequences: • Warning in class • Written referral and removal from class AND parent contact.
4. Required Materials: All students must come to class each day with the following materials: • Their charged laptop. • A three-ringed binder with dividers and paper • Pencil and/or pen
5. Assessment and Grading Plan: We will cover seven units over the course of the year. Each unit consists of 1-4 summative assessments (tests and projects). The amount of formative assessments (classwork, homework, quizzes, etc.) varies per unit, as well as lab assignments. All unit tests are cumulative and include both multiple choice and open response questions. Major Grades- 60%: Summative Assessments, Quizzes, Cumulative Special Projects Unit Tests: All unit tests are cumulative and include both multiple choice and open response questions. Projects: Students will complete at least 1 project per quarter, some being individual and some being groupwork based. Presentations: Students will occasionally be asked to present their projects, classwork, or other assignments for a presentation grade. The intent is to build confidence in speaking and to give an opportunity to demonstrate mastery of the material outside of written assignments. Minor Grades-40%: Formative Assessments and Classwork/Informal labs: Each unit is packed with engaging activities used to help master content. Labs: Each unit will have several lab activities. Some will be written up formally while others will be completed more informally. Students will receive specific instructions on what is expected for each lab.

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Please sign and return the bottom portion by Monday Sept 13th

Student Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name:

Parent Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Contact Information: