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Physics Policies

The universe is an intriguing place of secrets and mysteries. At times she reveals her secrets when she becomes the stage for the most magnificent show that man has ever known, physics. You cannot appreciate the universe until you understand the rules by which it operates. Physics shows us the rules by which the universe operates and exposes the intriguing mathematical relationship that exists between everything. Physics satisfies our insatiable appetite for knowledge, challenges our current understanding of the universe, and provides us with the answers to every question we have ever sought. For each day you leave class you will feel more-and-more alive than the day before as you learn how everything in this universe is connected through physics. Enjoy

Student Responsibilities

- 1. Be responsible, respectful, and ready to learn.
- 2. Help me help you.
- 3. Be courteous, punctilious, smile a lot, and have a positive outlook!
- 4. Help others learn.
- 5. Prevent ochlocracy at all cost!

Teacher Responsibilities

- 1. Provide instructional leadership.
- 2. Help you help you.
- 3. Be courteous, punctilious, smile a lot, and have a positive outlook!
 - 4. Enforce school and district policies.
- 5. Prevent ochlocracy at all cost!

Discussion

As your instructor, I will show you the way to the promised land. I will guide you through the physics jungle and share with you all that is required for you to receive credit in physics and become a super genius. As your tour guide, I will choose the pace by which we will travel based on district scope and sequence. If the pace by which we travel becomes overwhelming and/or you find yourself loosing your way, it is your responsibility to seek my help before you fall any further behind. Physics depends heavily on good math skills and the ability to rearrange formulas in order to solve for unknowns. It is required that you are currently enrolled in or have taken and passed algebra II. It is also extremely important that you feel comfortable with your level of math skills and that you feel ready to conquer this course; I can not stress how difficult can be to try to learning physics without having the required math skills.

Classroom Rules and Discipline

I have only one rule for my classroom and it is easy to remember and follow: **help me to teach**. Do not do anything that prevents me from teaching or doing my job. This class is intended for highly mature individuals who come to class ready to learn and participate. Students who are distracting form the learning of others and/or who are not following the posted responsibilities will received a verbal warning. If the situation or behavior continues a student-teacher conference will take place were the student completes a behavior contract. If yet the behavior still continues, the parents will be notified as well as the students assistant principal.

Grading

Grades are based on the accumulation of points earned by the student throughout the grading period. In each grading period, 50% of a students grade will be based on daily work and 50% of a students grade will be based on test scores. Daily work will consist of home work, lab work, notes, and quizzes. All test questions are taken directly from assigned reading, worksheets, labs, and lectures.



Absents

If you are to be absent for any reason you will still be held responsible for all assignments that were missed during your absents. Missing a class is not an excuse for not handing in work. It is each student's responsibility to check the syllabus and check with other students in order to find out what they missed. District and school policy will be followed with all missing assignments caused by an absents.

Tutorials

From time-to-time all physics students will require extra help and/or reteaching. Tutorials are posted on my teacher web page and within the classroom but I am also available by request other than the posted times. The most important thing to remember when taking physics is to never be afraid to ask for help.

Testing

It is each student's responsibility to properly prepare for each exams by thoroughly studying the required material before any examination is given. The pace at which the material is covered will not be changed; therefore, it is imperative that each student study the material throughout any unit and not wait until the day before the exam to learn the required information. If you find yourself falling behind or in need of extra help you must take it upon yourself to get additional tutoring before any exam is given.

Website

I maintain a six weeks syllabus for students and parents on my teacher website where I post all activities, lecture, and assignments for each day of the six weeks. My teacher website is located under my name in the science staff section of the McNeil High School website. If you miss a class and/or want to see what we did or will be doing on different days I encourage you to checkout my teacher website for this information.

Required Materials

Each student is required to have the following items no later than the second week of school and to bring these items to class daily. If you have any problems obtaining the following items see me as soon as possible.

- · A binder and/or spiral for assignments
- Science composition book (graph book)
- Scientific calculator
- A writing instrument, preferable a blue ink pen
- A ream of paper (give to teacher before the second week of school)

Cell Phones

I encourage students to bring and to use smart phones during physics lessons but only for the purpose of recording important information, demonstrations, and other parts of the lesson that can be playback later for reference. Cell phones are not to be used for texting, phone calls, web surfing, and/or any other activity the my distract the student and/or other members of the classroom (including the teacher) from the lesson. Students who are using cell phones at inappropriate times and/or who are distracting any member of the classroom (including the teacher) will first be given a verbal warning to put their phone away and if the distraction continues the student's cell phone will be taken up and put behind a Faraday's cage.

Special Notes to the Students

I promise to do everything in my powers and everything possible to help you be successful in physics. I promise that will not fail any student that enters my room. Even with all my efforts some students may elect to fail themselves, a situation for which the responsibility rest purely on the student. If you find yourself struggling, ask me for help. I am here to help you learn physics but you have to be willing to seek help as needed.

Final Notes

Our elders pave the way for each of us. All we all need to do is take time to listen to what they are trying to teach us. When I find myself in difficult situations or when I feel lost and/or even overwhelmed I repeat what my grandmother always told me:

Yard by yard life is hard, inch by inch its a cinch

