

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Science – 2016-2017

Mr. Selent – Room 184

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**Description:** This class is designed to give you a *more* in depth overview of Physics and Chemistry. Chemistry is the branch of science that looks to understand the composition, properties and chemical reactions of matter. Physics is the branch of science whose goal is to explain the workings of the world around us.

Why do we care about these? Among others...

- To allow students to discover and develop talents/interests in science and technology. This will help to strengthen our nation in science which will lead to an increase in productivity and innovation.
- To promote a scientifically-literate society that is able to comprehend the science behind those political and societal issues that involve science concepts, especially as it pertains to the environment and medical research.
- To promote cognitive development and ability in areas of critical and abstract thought which is highly valued in many careers outside the direct realm of science.
- Your parents are making you.

### **Textbook and Materials**

Textbook (provided by school): ***Take your book home and leave it at home.*** We have a classroom set of books so you will never need your book in class.

Materials (provided by student): If acquiring any of these is a problem see me after class.

- Calculator (basic functions only required for this class).
- Pencils, pens.
- 1.5” (minimum) or 2” (preferred) three ring binder with 5 dividers.
- Spiral Notebook with 3 holes. A Spiral ***GraphPaper*** Notebook (4squares/inch) will make your life much easier.

### **Class Culture:**

All societies have a culture. The culture in our classroom will be one that respects each person and their thoughts and questions. The main goal of our culture is to create an environment where everyone can learn ***if they so choose***. While I cannot make any one person learn if they do not wish, individuals will not be allowed to infringe on the rights of those who would like to learn. With that fundamental philosophy in mind the following are the rules of our classroom (these are posted over the door as well):

- Respect yourself and others.
- Be in your seats when the bell rings.
- Bring all notebooks and/or other required materials to class.
- Follow directions the first time they are given.
- No eating, drinking or “grooming” during class.

*Should you choose to break a rule the following are the consequences:*

1. First time: I will record your name.
2. Second time: Again, I will record your name.
3. Third time: 45 minute detention party (Tuesday after school in room 184).
4. Fourth time: One hour detention party and ***joint*** call home to parent.

### **Grading Policy:**

The Mayfield High School grading scale will apply (A/B/C/D/F). The following is the “approximate” grade percentage distributions for this course:

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| • Quizzes/Labs / Projects / Writing Assignments | 35% |
| • Homework/Bellwork                             | 2%  |
| • Unit Tests                                    | 63% |

### **Progress Assessment**

You can monitor your grade on Infinite Campus. You must know your student ID number when logging on and I will update grades as quickly as possible.

### **Make-up Policy (tests and labs):**

- All assignments missed due to an **excused** absence from class must be completed within one day of the student’s return to class. **It is the responsibility of the student to request all makeup work.** Assignments will be posted on the left side of the white board as well as on my Mayfield Web Site. Tests and quizzes are to be made up on a student’s own time before or after school.
- A student who has been absent due to a school sponsored function will be expected to turn in all homework and take all assessments on a student’s own time the day of return to school.

**Test Redo:** Learning is what we value. As such, after each **Unit test** there is the opportunity to go back and relearn what you did not learn or understand for the first test. This is better known as a Test Redo. Approximately one week after the initial test there will be an opportunity to retake the test after school. Your highest grade will be entered into Infinite Campus. If your score goes down on the redo, the first test score will remain in Infinite Campus.

*To earn the right to take the test redo you must come for help (after school) and spend a minimum of 45 minutes studying/reviewing the material on the test OR have all completed homework for that Unit (this will be your ticket for the retake).*

### **Homework:**

Approximately 20-30mins of homework will be assigned each night with approximately 45minutes assigned each weekend. You cannot learn without practice and the goal of homework will be to help you practice and understand the concepts covered in class. Homework will be collected randomly. Homework will **not** be graded for correctness. All answers to the homework will be posted online the day the homework is assigned. If you do not turn in the homework on the date it is due you can turn in that homework at any time (before the test on that material) for half credit.

### **Extra Help**

I am here to help you learn. That is the only reason your parents are paying my salary. Learning is not always easy and not always fun. For some, learning will mean putting forth a great deal of effort. I have friends who could learn things with relative ease. Unfortunately I could never do this and had to study a great deal. As I know first hand that students may need extra help I am always willing to provide this help:

I am willing to help in room 184: **After School, Tuesday and Thursday 3:00 – 4:00pm**

If these times will not work, make an appointment and I will make time to help you understand the world of science. Help is available but it is up to you to utilize this help! You can lead a horse to water but you cannot make it drink. My goal is to provide the water, but I cannot make you drink...

### **The Notebook: *Required: 1.5 or 2-inch three ring binder with 5 dividers.***

- **Section 1: *Notebook*.** Your Hardbound Notebook will be found in this section. Your notebook will be used for class notes and when we are in lab.
- **Section 2: *Important Class Information*.** Things such as this handout should be found in this section all year. I will tell you when a handout should go into section 2.
- **Section 3: *Current Unit Handouts*.** Stanford Notes, Worksheets, etc. for the Unit we are currently studying.
- **Section 4: *Quizzes and Tests*.** This section will be cleaned out at the end of the semester.
- **Section 5: *Old Chapter Handouts*.** After we finish a Unit (take the test) we move all material from Section 3 to Section 5. This material should to be kept for studying for the end of quarter and end of semester tests.

## Success in This Course

To be successful in this class (and life) try these suggestions:

- Stay organized (for more than 1 or 2 weeks)
- ASK QUESTIONS!
- Take your time with classwork and homework. Answer all questions thoroughly.
- Read your textbook, watch videos online, research online... If you don't understand something, ask.
- Study and attempt practice problems each day. Have a plan (I can help develop one if needed), stick to it and don't get behind. Doing your homework each day will work much better than 2-3 hours the night before a test.
- Come in for extra help whenever needed, or just drop by to say hi.

## Procedures:

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Entering the class:</b>         | Enter quietly and begin bellwork.   |
| <b>Class Dismissal:</b>            | Class is dismissed when I dismiss you. Time is of the essence and I will keep a close eye on the time <b><i>so you do not have to worry about it!</i></b> Getting ready for dismissal before given permission to do so is unacceptable.<br>Don't worry, we have lots of time.                                       |
| Quieting the Class:                | I will ask for your attention and wait until the class is quiet.  |
| Passing in papers:                 | Pass papers to the right, not forward.  |
| <b>Picking up missed work:</b>     | If you are absent from a class it is your responsibility to find out what you missed. Please see me before the bell rings or after class the day of your return.<br><i>However, when absent you can check online to see the posted assignment for the day and print out handouts that were passed out in class.</i> |
| Turning in late Work:              | Turn work in directly to me after class unless otherwise directed.  |
| Participating in class discussion: | Discussion is encouraged. Recognition to speak will be given to those <i>raising their hands</i> . Wait for recognition to speak.   |
| Need Something:                    | Quietly get what is needed.   |
| <b>Lavatory Pass:</b>              | 2 uses per quarter. Sign log book and take pass. If you need to use the pass a third time this is fine, but you will owe a detention party on Tuesday or Thursday afternoon.  |
| <b>Tardy</b>                       | You need to be on time, every day. If not see consequences under <b><i>Class Culture</i></b> .  |
| Meeting in Lab:                    | When we are in the lab please go to your seats and begin bellwork as usual if on screen.  |
| Firedrill                          | We will discuss what is needed and proceed as a group to the designated area.   |
| Saying "Thank You":                | When somebody does something nice for you, thank them!  |