

Course Syllabus

for

Next Generation Science

Renaissance High School

6565 West Outer Drive

Detroit, MI 48235

(313) 416-4600

Ms. Anita Williams, Principal

**Instructors:** **Hours:** **Prep Period Room**

Ms. C.D. Bridges- Ms. A. Gipson E, F, G A, D 312

Dr. F. Curtis-Fields- Mr. S. Kim A, B, C E, F 312

Mr. K. Jenks B, C, E, F, G A, D 315

Ms. C. Anderson A, C, 315

Mr. A. Watts D, F, G 315

Mrs. D. Newell – Mr. E. Janshego A, B, D C, G 309

Mrs. K. Williams E, F, G A, B 309

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This is a yearlong course divided into semesters. First semester will cover Physical Science and second semester will cover Earth Science. The course is designed to serve as a solid foundation for our students taking later courses in biology, chemistry and physics. Through inquiry methods the students will learn how to graph and analyze data. These methods will additionally prepare the students for the MME and ACT test. These Standards are aligned with Common Core.

**COURSE GOALS:**  Throughout this course students will develop their skills in scientific critical thinking, graphing and analyzing data, laboratory procedure, communicating results.

**Materials:**

1. Flexible 3 ring binder (2 inch) 7. 12 inch ruler (w/metric markings)

2**. Loose leaf paper**  8. 2 red pens

3. Reinforcements 9. Graph paper

4. Five (5) dividers with pockets and tabs 10. PLANNER

5. Pens and pencils (2 black ink pens) 11. $5.00 lab fee

6. Scientific Calculator

***SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS ARE NOT ALLOWED***

**Overview of Topics:**

OUTLINE OF COURSE CONTENT:

**First Semester**

Science and Measurements

Mathematical Models

Mass and Volume

Characteristics Properties

Matter and Energy

**Second Semester**

Earth Systems

Solid Earth

Fluid Earth

Earth, Space and Time

**Attendance Policy and Make-up Work**

 Students are expected to be present daily and on time. In the event of absence, it is the student’s responsibility to bring an absence excuse from a parent or guardian within three (3) school days of the student’s return to class. Students who have not brought notes within three days will not be given make-up work. Students should check the calendar on the website for work that was missed.

There will be no make-up work given for truancy or unexcused absences. Students must make appointments for missed announced quizzes and/or tests on the day of their return.

Due to the nature of laboratory experiments missed labs CANNOT be made up, however the data can be obtained from your lab partner. Keep in mind that all test questions are lab based.

**Tardy Policy**

 There is nothing more rude or distracting than somebody that is late to class. You NEED to be in class on time and beginning the bell work as soon as possible. However, late students are allowed into the classroom with a valid pass. Students are to knock on the door and wait to be allowed in the room. Upon entry, they are to sign the tardy book and join the class. They are still responsible for the bell work, but will not receive points for the bell work. I will not disrupt the flow of the lesson to open the door for late students. Excessive tardiness will result in a phone call home, parent conferences, or suspension.

**Grading Scale**

A 100% - 85%

B 84% - 75%

C 74% - 65%

D 64% - 50%

Due to the leniency of the grading

scale, there will be no rounding

in the computation of the course

grade *(example 49.999999 % = F*)

**Lab Report Format**

**I Pre-Laboratory Report (Complete this section before starting the experiment)**

1. Title: (The name of the experiment)
2. Purpose: (The reason for doing the experiment)
3. Hypothesis: (Make a testable **Claim** about the problem)
4. Materials: (A list of the equipment needed to complete the experiment.)
5. Procedure: (The step by step instructions needed to complete the experiment)

**II Laboratory Report**

A. Observations: **Evidence** (Any information/data that is collected during the experiment that supports the claim)

1. Quantitative Data –Information that is represented in the form of tables, graphs, charts, equations and calculations.

2. Qualitative Data- Information that is represented in the form of a description of the results using the 5 senses (colors, textures, sounds and odors)

B. Research questions with answers.

C. Conclusions (Use **Reasoning** that links the evidence to the claim)

**A report that is written out of order is subject to a 20 point penalty**

**Distribution on Credit:** Credit can be earned in the following areas.

 Tests 35%

 Labs 30%

 Quizzes 20%

 Homework/Classwork 15%

**Pre-Lab 40Points**

Before each lab the student is expected to have the pre-lab done. This is a homework assignment. The pre-lab consists of the title, purpose(s), materials, procedure(s), blank data table, place for observations, place for calculations, research question(s) with space for answers, and space for conclusions. These are done **IN ADVANCE** of the lab, as class time is designed data collection and observation only!!! A student that does not have the pre-lab done on the date that it is due will not be allowed to recover the 40 lost points.

Data analysis and the completion of data tables, questions, conclusions and the overall completion of the lab report are done at home and is due at the BEGINNING of the next class meeting unless otherwise stated by me.

**Extra Credit**

There is no extra credit for this class. Each student receives equal opportunity for success. All assignments are due as stated. Individualized requests regarding make up work for poor planning on the part of the student will not be honored. Students participating in extracurricular activities that make class absences necessary will have work due the next school day after the event. No other allowances will be made.

**Letters of Recommendation for Dr. Curtis-Fields and Ms. Anderson ONLY**

Only students that receive an A or B in the course may secure letters of recommendation. We will honor letters of recommendation request early if it becomes statistically impossible for a student’s final grade to fall below a B for the course.

 Students must make request at least one week before they are due and should include a listing of their extra-curricular activities in order to secure a better letter of recommendation. Although it is highly unlikely to occur if a student has met the academic standard, we may decline the offer to write a letter of recommendation at our own discretion.

**Rules:**

Students are required to follow the Detroit Public Schools Student Code of Conduct, classroom rules, and the Renaissance High School Dress Code. Students will not be allowed to enter/stay in class if they do not adhere to the content of these documents. Students are required to wear ID card above waist at all times.

**Classroom Rules**

1. No touching 5. No passes
2. No coats, food, drink, headgear, or book bags 6. Do not open the door
3. Be on time/leave ONLY when dismissed 7.Bring all required materials
4. No profanity, fighting, or negative comments 8. No sharing calculators

Please handle all issues regarding personal comfort and appropriate school supplies before coming to class.

**Discipline Plan:**

If a student cannot follow the regulations set forth in this document, the following corrective actions will be executed:

1. Verbal warning /call home
2. Change student seating/ call home
3. Detention/ call home
4. Meeting with parents without suspension
5. Suspension and meeting with parents (this step repeats)

 6. Any student participating in academic dishonesty will receive a zero on their assignment. Requirement for cheating-“If I say you are cheating, you are cheating.”

**Electronic Devices:**

Electronic devices are strictly prohibited. Students must turn off devices before entering the classroom. After entry, **ANY** electronic device in use (i.e. talking, listening, looking, holding, ringing, vibrating, or texting) will be confiscated and turned over to administration at the teacher’s earliest convenience. Confiscated items will not be returned directly to a parent or child under any circumstances. They must be retrieved from administration during the scheduled time.

**Progress Reports**

 Progress reports are available on Parent Connect. The access code can be obtained from the office. The Parent Connect operation is a “read-only” document, meaning that I am the only one allowed to change grades.

**Substitute Teachers:**

 In the extremely unlikely event of my absence, a substitute teacher will be provided. Students are expected to be on their best behavior. They are expected to follow the rules and routines as if I were present. Any student who receives a negative report will be disciplined immediately upon my return. The extent of that discipline will be determined by the behavior displayed. All sub work is worth **a quiz grade**. Students MUST turn in each assignment to the substitute for credit. Any assignment not given to the substitute at the end of the class hour will neither be accepted nor graded.

**All papers must have name, date, and hour on them. ANY STUDENT THAT TURNS IN A PAPER WITHOUT THEIR NAME ON IT WILL NOT RECEIVE CREDIT FOR THEIR WORK!!! WRITE YOUR NAME FIRST!!!**

**ORGANIZATION OF BINDER (each section should be labeled)**

Cover Student Name, Hour, Room Number

First Page Table of Contents

Second Page: Syllabus

First Section: Class Notes

Second Section: Laboratory Reports

Third Section Classwork/Homework

Fourth Section Current Events

Fifth Section Returned Papers

*(All pages in the notebook should be dated and in chronological order)*

To the Parent:

We are available to you by progress reports, notes, phone calls, e-mails, and visits by appointments (during my preparation periods only please). Email addresses are cynthia.bridges@detroitk12.org, frances.curtis-fields@detroitk12.org, kyle.jenks@detroitk12.org, develyn.newell@detroitk12.org , antonio.watts@detroitk12.org , Kerry.williams@detroitk12.org , or, Caitlin.anderson@detroitk12.org If you send an e-mail, please put your child’s name in the subject box.

Additionally, if you wish to communicate by phone, we can be reached by leaving a message at (313) 416-4600. Please leave a number where you can be contacted between the hours of 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

 In closing, please encourage your child to maintain good study habits and mastery of the material covered in this extremely challenging class. We are confident in your child’s ability to do well in this course. We look forward to working with you and your child. Please note that whether or not the syllabus is signed and returned, the policies of the syllabus will be followed.

Educationally yours,

Ms. Cynthia Bridges

Dr. Frances Curtis-Fields

Mr. Kyle Jenks

Mrs. Develyn Newell

Mrs. Kerry Williams

Ms. Caitlin Anderson

Mr. Antonio Watts

*Please fill out and return this section only*

Class Hour \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Student Signature

I have read and discussed this syllabus with my child, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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Parent Signature Date

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Parent’s Cell Parent’s work number Parent’s email address