



WELCOME STUDENTS AND PARENTS!

My name is Brian Pomerantz. I look forward to teaching Investigative Science (IS) to the students at Perry High School and working with their parent(s), to shape a successful school year.

Investigative science covers concepts of Earth Science, Chemistry, Physics, Sustainability and Biology/Ecology. The course will cover the scientific method: creating hypotheses, making critical observations, describing observations to others, collecting and graphing data, and formulating accurate conclusions that are meaningful to others. Science requires organization and excellent verbal and written communication skills. Work completion, content comprehension and ability communicate data will factor into grades.

Feel free to contact me at via e-mail or phone and I will reply as soon as possible – generally within 24 hours. You may reach me at Pomerantz.Brian@cusd80.com or at (480)-224-2974. Below is brief outline of the course topics, by quarter

First Quarter

Course intro Scientific Inquiry Measurement, Accuracy and Precision, Data Collection and Graphing, Dimensional analysis, Intro to energy Potential energy Kinetic energy, Transfer of energy, Law of conservation of energy, Mechanical and Electrical energy, 3 Pillars of Sustainability, Quarter Exam

Second Quarter

3 Pillars of Sustainability, Weather and weather systems, Seasons, Forecasting, Atmosphere, Nebular theory, Big Bang, Semester Exam

Third Quarter

Periodic table, Atomic structure, Ions, Matter, Chemical and Physical changes, Law of conservation of matter, Chemical equations, Combustion, Quarter Exam

Fourth Quarter

Forms and sources of energy, Energy transfer, Energy production and consumption, Geochemical cycles, Climate change Paleoclimatology. Population ecology, Carbon credits, Ecosystems and populations, Final Exam

Four things will help students do well:

1. Be in your seats when the starting class bell rings
2. Be courteous to others and expect it in return
3. Be prepared with materials and work (bring Notebook and completed assignments to class daily)
4. Be accountable, attentive, enthusiastic and participate often

Required Materials

- A single one-subject spiral-bound notebook (approximately 70 sheets) per quarter
- Pencils #2 (with erasers)
- Basic calculator (**not** a cell phone)
- The teacher will announce, in advance, any other materials necessary for class that are not provided by the school

Class Activities and class assignments

These may include: science labs and interactive demonstrations, research and analysis, group work, projects and presentations, weekly quizzes, unit tests, notebook checks and revisions

Grading Scale/Policy: student grades are found through CUSD's Infinite Campus

A = 90% - 100%

B = 80% - 89%

C = 70% - 79%

D = 60% - 69%

F = Less than 60%

A semester grade's weighting is 80% course work (class assignments, quizzes, and tests) and 20% the semester final exam.

CLASSROOM RULES – Adopted from the CUSD Student Handbook

Respect the Rights of Others

-Students have a right to an education without interference from others.

School Attendance

-Please refer to the student handbook for specific absence policies.

**Being Tardy**

-On time is in your assigned seat when the bell rings. Late students may receive calls home and/or a disciplinary referral.

Complete work and assignments

-Students are responsible for completing all class work and assignments on time. Work must be 100% complete.

Prepared and Organized for Class

-Students have a responsibility to bring to necessary materials that may be required for active class participation.

Respect Public Property

-Students have a responsibility to respect and to protect all school property.

Obey School Rules

-Students have a responsibility to know and obey school rules and regulations.

Cooperate with School Staff

-Students are responsible to maintain a safe, orderly, environment and cooperate with all reasonable school staff requests.

No Cheating, no Plagiarizing

-Cheating and plagiarizing is copying work of another person and submitting it as you own, allowing another student to copy your work, using or securing materials or work in a dishonest or unapproved way. Cheating will result in a zero for the assignment/assessment and referral to administration. Talking during a test or quiz will be considered cheating.

Be Honest and Responsible

-Do not lie or create false excuses. Academic advantage gained through a lie might be considered cheating.

Electronic Devices

-Personal electronic devices (PED) are not to be in use during class unless required, by the teacher. PEDs used without permission will be confiscated and can be picked up, in the school's attendance office at the end of the school day. Students using, viewing or holding a PED during a test or quiz will receive a zero unless the device is approved or by the teacher.

Hats and Sunglasses

-Take off hats and sunglasses in the building (unless medically required)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**Class assignments**

-Class assignments are a measure of responsibility and may be graded for completion or correct content

-Completing assignments helps a student's grade by earning points and having the information available in their notebook.

Notebooks

-All students will keep an organized notebook per quarter. Students should keep each of their notebooks.

-Each notebook must contain materials included in the specific notebook table of contents the teacher provides.

-Students may use their notebooks for reference on specified (not all) quizzes or tests.

-Notebook checks provide students credit for complete assignments and class notes.

Tests and Quizzes

-Tests are multiple choice and problem solving. Study guides are available; notebooks are the best source of study material.

-Quizzes may be announced or unannounced and may be multiple choice, short answer or essay.

Extra Credit

-Students can earn extra credit during unit pre-testing. Students receive a portion their score on a unit pre-test as extra credit.

Pre-tests help the students identify their learning goals and will not have a negative impact on the student's overall grade.

Class time

-Bells do not dismiss students; the teacher will dismiss the students.

-Assignments given in class will be on the classroom webpage.

Late work

-Work not complete when due is late. Students may earn half credit for turning in completed late work within a week of the original due date. Exceptions, including illness and family emergencies, do exist.

Food and Drink

-Students may consume only water, in a clear container. No other beverage or food is allowed in the classroom.

Make up work

-Absent students are responsible for obtaining make up assignments. These assignments may be found on classroom web page and/or in the classroom. Alternate assignments can be given when necessary. (See page 8 in the student handbook.)



Signature Page

Parents please sign this page and have your student bring it to school. I look forward to the school year.

Students and parents, please confirm you have read and understand the classroom rules, policies and procedures.

After signing, please return this page to Mr. Pomerantz

Print Student name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please remember, we are all beholden to a higher standard of behavior in the classroom.

