**West Middle School**

**6th Grade Science**

**2014 – 2015**

**Teacher: Ms. Stephanee Hughes**

**Room: 129**

**School Phone: 214-3230**

**Email: shughes@cpsk12.org**

**Website: mshughesscience.weebly.com**

**Twitter: @HughesScience**

**Course Description**

Welcome to West Middle School! I am looking forward to an exciting year of getting to know you while learning about many scientific subjects. We will have great experiences studying cells, forces and motion, energy, and ecology. During these units, we will also focus on understanding and developing fundamental science and engineering skills.

**Course Materials**

Students will use classroom sets of several textbooks for this course. The following items are required for class every day:

* Single subject spiral notebook
* Pencils or pens
* 3 inch ring binder (this will be used for all classes).

\*\*PLEASE HAVE YOUR SCIENCE COURSE MATERIAL BY TUESDAY 8/26/14\*\*

**Classroom Donations**

There are some supplies that we use extensively in class. If you can make a donation it would be greatly appreciated.

* Filler paper
* Glue sticks
* Colored pencils
* Tissues
* Dry erase markers and erasers

**Grading**

Students will earn grades from lab activities, individual class-work, group work, projects, quizzes and tests. The first semester grade will be an accumulation of grades from the beginning of school until the winter holiday break. The second semester grade will be an accumulation of grades from January to the end of school. Quizzes may be retaken for a score improvement. The semester grade for each student will be weighted based on the percentages below:

Classwork and Homework – 10% Quizzes – 50%

Science Notebook – 10% Tests – 20%

Labs - 10%

**Homework Expectations**

Handing in assignments ON TIME is important. Homework is considered on time when it is fully completed upon arrival to class on the due date. Homework handed in after the teacher has collected or checked the work is considered late. Late homework will not receive full credit. No late work will be accepted after the Friday before IPRs are released.

**Absences and Make-up Work**

Completing make-up work is essential when students are absent. Students will have the number of days absent to turn in missing work. It is your responsibility to make up your missing work and turn it in on time, including quizzes and tests. If you were present at school when work was assigned, and absent the day it is due, I will expect it to be turned in when you return to school.

*If you are absent—there are 3 ways to get caught up:*

1. Check with table or group partners, especially to get caught up on notes.
2. Check my website mshughesscience.weebly.com OR “The Absent Basket” at the front of the room for handouts, notes, & assignments.
3. After trying the above, ask me for the assignment by visiting me before school or during the warm-up time.

**Classroom Procedures**

In addition to policies outlined in the PBIS Matrix and Science Department Safety Contract, our class policies are the following:

*Passing in the Hallway*

1. Be courteous of the others in the hallway
2. Pass on the right
3. Enter the classroom quickly and quietly

*Once in the Classroom*

1. Upon the bell you, should be seated and ready with your science notebook and pencil or pen.
2. Answer the warm-up question in your science notebook while role is being taken.
3. Update your Table of Contents in the front of your notebook.
4. Copy down any assignments in your agenda.
5. This is the time to sharpen pencils or ask to use the restroom, restroom usage will not be allowed during class time unless it’s an emergency.

*During Class*

1. When someone else is talking, you should be listening.
2. Raise your hand to ask questions or make a comment.
3. Water bottles are ok. No flavored drinks, food, or gum.
4. Pick the appropriate time to ask to be excused to the restroom. I will not always say yes...you need to plan your passing time before class.
5. Be a good citizen of the Earth—recycle paper and plastic in appropriate bins.

*End of Class Procedure*

1. About 5 minutes before the end of class, lab materials will be put away and the day’s work will be summarized. Students are to remain seated until they are dismissed.

**Students who succeed in science are:**

1. *A respectful science student:*
	* Provide attention to whomever has the floor (teacher or peer)
	* Demonstrate appropriate verbal and physical behaviors and tones:
		+ Respect adults in the room (including substitutes)
		+ Respect peers in collaborative work
2. *A responsible science student will:*
	* Participate
	* Arrive on time with needed materials
	* Complete homework on time
	* Stay on task
	* Update his or her agenda daily
	* Access work when absent
	* Seek help
3. *A safe science student will:*
* Understand and follow safety rules
* Treat property and equipment properly

I have read and understand the classroom expectations and policies for Ms. Hughes’s Science classroom. By signing this syllabus I am acknowledging my role in creating a safe and positive learning environment and acknowledging my need to be ready, respectful, and responsible.

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_