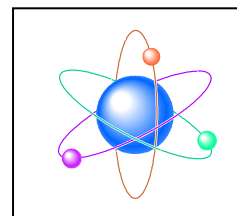


# SCIENCE

Ms. Julie Beelman

Team 8-2

*Note: Any of the below is subject to change at the instructors consent.*



(1) Welcome to science class! My name is Ms. Julie Beelman. I am excited to be entering my 12<sup>th</sup> year of teaching. I have a BA in elementary education with emphasis on science and social studies from Alma College in Michigan and a school counseling MA from Northern Kentucky University. I currently live in Mt. Washington with my two cats, Emma and Charlie. In my spare time I paint, construct and work backstage for a local community theatre group. In my classroom, I aim to create an interactive experience where all students will foster knowledge and appreciation for scientific concepts.

(2) By the end of the course you will have studied a wide variety of scientific topics. You will develop a better understanding of the natural world, the nature of science, the development of science processes, the principles of science, and the connections within a variety of scientific areas. My goal is for you to be able to use appropriate scientific processes and principles in making personal decisions every day.

### (3) Required Materials:

1. Pencils & Pens
2. Loose-leaf paper
3. Mini-textbook (assigned for each topic) Online Version: <http://www.phsuccessnet.com>
4. Science Binder with dividers
5. Spiral notebook for science journal
5. Other handy items (not required): graph paper, ruler, calculator, note cards, coloring utensils

### (4) Course Schedule:

Areas of Study Include: Experimental Design, Scientific Method, Safety, Measurement, Tools of Science, Astronomy, Cells and Heredity, Inside Earth, Earth's Surface, Forces, Motion, Light, and Sound, all with an emphasis on scientific ways of knowing, technology, and inquiry.

### (5) & (6) Expectations and Policies:

#### TEAM Expectations:

1. **Respect others as well as yourself. Respect the property of your classmates and this room.** Golden rule: Treat others as you expect to be treated. Keep hands, feet, and inappropriate comments to yourself. Choose the appropriate time for speaking in class. Raise your hand and wait for the appropriate time to speak. Give your classmates and myself the same respect you would expect. Respect the personal property of others as well as the equipment in this room.

#### NOTE:

- My desk area, ALL drawers and cabinets, and storage room are off-limits! You have designated student supply areas where you may use staplers, paper punches, colored paper, tape, and coloring utensils.
- The shower cord is completely off-limits except in case of an emergency! Pulling the cord will result in an **AUTOMATIC** office referral.

2. **Be prepared for class.** Bring your book, science binder, science journal, paper, pencil/pen, planner and a positive attitude to class everyday. **ALWAYS bring your homework with you.** It is **your** responsibility to bring these items to class. You will not be allowed to return to your locker for forgotten items. Check the white board outside the classroom door for a list of items to bring each day.

3. **Come to class on time.** This means you will be in your seat at the beginning of class. You must be in your seat ready to work with at the start of class or you will be counted tardy.

4. **Follow directions the first time they are given.** We will do hands-on activities, group work, and independent work in which you will collaborate with your classmates. It is very important that you listen and follow directions, so that you can complete the task successfully and safely.

\*\*You do not have to ask my permission to throw something in the garbage or sharpen your pencil. Just use your common sense and manners as to when you do these activities.

**Consequences:** Consequences of not following the above policies or meeting the above expectations will result in being written up and assigned a team or school detention or referred to the office for other forms of discipline. All students and parents should refer to the Nagel Middle School Handbook in the student planner for discipline policies and procedures.

### Science Classroom Policies:

1. **Everyone must participate in the lab activities!** Every person in the group has the responsibility of making sure that all members are actively included.
2. **Always do your homework.** Answer ALL questions. Your homework will be taken for a grade! Put what you believe to be the correct answer! Who knows, you might be right! ☺ Also, missing work will result in being assigned to a mandatory team Lunch Detention session.
3. **Always do your own work.** Copying the work of others is considered cheating and is not tolerated by the school or the team.
4. **Take advantage of enrichment activities and test corrections.** If you don't succeed the first time, try, try again. You may retake any test after school that received less than a "C".
5. **Stay Organized.** Keep up with your science binder. Don't throw anything away unless directed. Binders will be checked for organization periodically.
6. **Treat science equipment and materials with respect.** If science materials are damaged on purpose, taken from the classroom or abused in any way, lab activities will be cancelled indefinitely.
7. **Come to study sessions.** After-school study sessions will be offered every **Tuesday** after school. Transportation is not provided by the school.

### Helpful Hints:

1. **Always Listen to Directions.** Following directions is a very important part of science class! Write down examples, helpful hints, definitions, etc. that we go over as a class or in groups before an activity. This will help you process the information better, as well as give you something to look back on when you are doing the activity or homework.
2. **Always Ask Questions.** Perhaps the most important thing you can do is ask for help when you don't understand something. Rule: Ask your lab partner or group members before you ask me! You are all smarter than you think you are! Remember: There is no such thing as a stupid question!
3. **Always Try.** Always attempt to answer a question or solve a problem even when you are having trouble. Remember: Sometimes there is more than one right answer or procedure. By trying and then asking, it will be easier to see where you may have gone wrong.

### Late Work/Make Up Work Policy:

Excused Absence: Students are given 2 days for every day absent to make up work.

Late Work (the student is present and fails to turn in homework): Students should strive to turn in homework on time. In the event that an assignment is late, it may be turned in the day after it was due for no penalty. If an assignment is more than one day late, **no credit** will be given unless a student attends Lunch Detention. If students attend the Lunch Detention, the assignment will be accepted with no penalty. Lunch Detention policies **DO NOT** include large projects. It is recommended that you hand in an assignment for teacher corrections even if it is late. All work will be on the quizzes and tests. Only work turned in on time can be used on the open-note part of quizzes and tests.

### Team 8-2 Extra Credit Policy:

Extra credit will be given at teacher's discretion. Extra credit will not be offered on an individual basis, but will be offered to the entire team when appropriate. Check out the weekly trivia wall and sign up for classroom duties. The science fair will be a large extra credit opportunity as well.

## Absentees:

- If you know you will be gone, try to let me know ahead of time so you can get your assignments before you go.
- Homework assignments will be posted on Progress Book (this does not include in-class assignments). Also, check the absent folders and assignment schedule on the front board to see what was collected, handed out, and discussed during your particular class period. If we did a worksheet or some other activity in class, it may be picked up from the worksheet folders on the counter by the window. Labs are difficult to make up and may have an alternative assignment. Make up work is to be turned into the file organizer on the counter labeled "LATE/ABSENT WORK". **Late work will only be accepted for those with an excused absence or if you attended a Lunch Detention.**

## Types of Graded Work in Science:

### Tests & Projects

Assessment may occur as a traditional test, a lab test, or a project. Lab tests will be based upon labs you did in class and may require you to perform a skill. Some will be done in groups. Projects will be accompanied by guidelines and a grading rubric. Students will be given a study guide and/or review for all tests.

### Labs

Students will participate in many labs where good behavior, following directions, and safety are very important. A safety contract will be required at the beginning of the school year. Any student who is inhibiting the safety/learning of another student or themselves during a lab, will receive a 0 on the lab. Lab grades come from participation, lab reports, and quizzes. Your lab grade also includes participation in class activities, following classroom policies, and meeting classroom expectations. If you are consistently tardy to class, disrupting class, or unprepared etc. then you will lose points.

### Homework and Binder Check

All homework will reinforce what you have learned in class. Current events and at-home science projects will also be included as homework. Binder organization will be checked occasionally.

## (7) Grading Scale:

The grading scale will follow that of the district. Note that the scale is NEW beginning this school year.

A+	97 - 100	4.0 pts	C-	70 - 72	1.7 pts
A	93 - 96	4.0 pts	D+	67 - 69	1.3 pts
A-	90 - 92	3.7 pts	D	65 - 66	1.0
B+	87 - 89	3.3 pts	F	Below 65	0.0
B	83 - 86	3.0 pts	NG	No Grade	
B-	80 - 82	2.7 pts	I	Incomplete	
C+	77 - 79	2.3 pts	P/F	Pass/Fail	
C	73 - 76	2.0 pts			

## (8) Contact Information:

I can be reached by phone or e-mail at Nagel Middle School:

Phone: (513) 474-5407      E-mail: [julie.beelman@foresthills.edu](mailto:julie.beelman@foresthills.edu) (preferred method of contact)

Team Website: <http://www.foresthills.edu/nagel/teams/82/team82.htm>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any comments or special concerns. A parent may request a conference at any time during the school year. I am looking forward to a very productive and rewarding year!