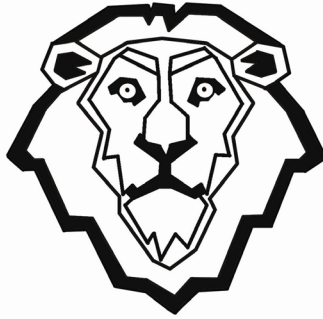


Autrey Mill Middle School



Course Syllabus for:
Grade 8:
Advanced Physical Science

Teacher Names	Email Address
Tim Riley	rileyt1@fultonschools.org
Keira Mell	mellK@fultonschools.org

Help Sessions	Wednesdays from 8:00 -8:30 AM
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Course Description:

The 8th Grade Physical Science curriculum provides students with the necessary knowledge and skills to transition from elementary physical science standards to high school physical science standards. The course is designed to provide students with an introductory overview of the common concepts in physical science including but not limited to the nature of matter, laws of conservation of matter and energy, motion, forces, and energy transformation. These concepts are investigated through observing, collecting, summarizing, analyzing, and presenting results of scientific investigations and fieldwork designed for students to develop the appropriate skills in science as inquiry.

This course is further designed to support statewide literacy standards and challenge students to become more effective communicators and consumers of information by applying skills including but not limited to identification of key ideas, definition of scientific words in context, and the development and justification of stated arguments to their study of core science concepts.

Textbooks: students will be given a consumable workbook/textbook for the year, online access via Classlink (HMH app-white/yellow smiley face Ed)

NOTE

The middle school physical science curriculum is not intended to take the place of the high school physical science curriculum.

- See General Academic Guidelines and Expectations for communication, recovery, discipline and other general information.
- See the Georgia Standards of Excellence at:
<http://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Science-Eighth-Grade-Georgia-Standards.pdf>
- Also, find the Literacy Standards for science at:
<http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/CCGPS.aspx>.

Course subject outline:**1st Semester**

Unit	Topic	Standards
1	Matter	S8P1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the structure and properties of matter.
2	Energy	S8P2. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the law of conservation of energy to develop arguments that energy can transform from one form to another within a system.
3	Force and Motion	S8P3. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about cause and effect relationships between force, mass, and the motion of objects.

2nd Semester

Unit	Topic	Standards
3 (continued)	Force and Motion	S8P3. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about cause and effect relationships between force, mass, and the motion of objects.
4	Electricity & Magnetism	S8P5. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about gravity, electricity, and magnetism as major forces acting in nature
5	Waves	S8P4. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to support the claim that electromagnetic (light) waves behave differently than mechanical (sound) waves.

Method for Grading

Grading Scale:

90% - 100%	A
80% - 89%	B
70% - 79%	C
Below 70%	F

1st Semester Grade will be determined by:

Major Assessments:	50%
Minor Assessments:	40%
Practice:	10%

2nd Semester Grade will be determined by:

Major Assessments:	50%
Minor Assessments:	40%
Practice:	10%

Codes in Infinite Campus:

NG – No Grade

I – Incomplete

M – Missing

<p>Grading Categories</p>	<p>Major (50%): an assignment or assessment that is cumulative in nature that measures learning targets from multiple standards/skills. Majors will include unit assessments, projects, or performance tasks. Assignments in the major category may be labeled: interim, test, essay, report, project, lab report, ADI and case study. (This is not an all-inclusive list.)</p> <p>Minor (40%): an assignment or assessment that measures an individual learning target, standard, or subset of learning targets/standards/skills within a unit. Minors will include quizzes, projects, lab investigations, or performance tasks. Assignments in the minor category may be labeled: one-pager, essay, quiz, (This is not an all-inclusive list.)</p> <p>Practice (10%): Daily assignments, observations, and/or engagement* activities given in class or for homework to build prerequisite skills, measure progress towards mastery of a learning target or standard, enrich, and/or remediate skills. Assignments in the practice category may be labeled: homework, Achieve 3000, Gallery Walk, Vocabulary Awareness Chart, and graphic organizers. (This is not an all-inclusive list.)</p> <p>A minimum of 2 major, 3 minor and 3 practice assessments will be included in each 9-week grading window.</p> <p>*<u>Engagement / class participation</u> can look different, depending on the individual. Some more common ideas of participation include: raising hands, contributing to discussions, asking and/or answering questions, and actively taking notes. Other forms of participation for students with social anxiety, communication delays or disorders, executive functioning weaknesses, etc. may look like: simply orienting body toward the speaker during discussions (with or without eye contact), arriving on time, coming prepared with materials needed for class or making an effort to prepare materials, contacting instructor for individual support during or outside of class, writing questions down on paper instead of asking aloud, attending instructor’s office hours, collaborating with a peer on content, staying in a designated area for work time, etc.</p>
<p>Classwork/Homework</p>	<p>Classwork and/or homework will be assigned daily. Students are expected to show evidence demonstrating their thinking.</p>
<p>Attendance & Make-Up Work</p>	<p>Regular attendance in this class is essential for each student to be successful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon returning to school, students will have an equal number of days as they were absent to complete any late/missing assignment, assessment, and/or task(s) for full credit. • After the deadline of an equal number of days a student was absent, teachers may begin deducting points from a late/missing assignment, assessment, and/or task(s) (maximum 25% deduction). • If a student fails to turn in a late/missing assignment, assessment, and/or task(s), then a zero may be entered in the grade book.

<p>Recovery Policy</p>	<p>Students will be given the opportunity to recover all major assessments if they score below 75% on the assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are limited to one recovery attempt per major assessment that meets the threshold for recovery. • Recovery of a major assessment should occur before the next major is given. • Eligible students can earn a replacement grade that is no higher than 75%. • If the recovery grade is below the original score, the original score should stand in the grade book.
<p>Conduct & Honor Code</p>	<p>All students are expected to be on time, prepared for class, respectful of others and involved in all class activities. Appropriate language is always expected. No food or drinks in class, except for bottled water.</p> <p>HONOR CODE POLICY</p> <p>To encourage fair assessments and to authenticate learning, the faculty supports a strong policy against cheating. Examples of cheating, which could include areas such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • copying or "borrowing" from another source and submitting it as one's own work • seeking or accepting unauthorized assistance on tests, projects or other assignments • altering or forging grades, gradebooks, progress reports, report cards or other academic records • fabricating data, signatures or resources • providing or receiving test questions in advance without permission • working collaboratively with other students when individual work is expected and any other examples that the school wishes to include. <p>Students guilty of an honor code violation will receive a grade of “zero” on the assignment or test and a day of Saturday School.</p> <p>Students who have distributed material or information to others that violates the Honor Code may receive up to 5 days OSS.</p> <p>The assignment may not be made up (students who have a “zero” are not eligible for recovery). Additionally, a behavior referral will be completed by the teacher in Infinite Campus and the appropriate administrator notified. Students receiving an Honor Code violation will be assigned Saturday School as outlined in the Fulton County Code of Conduct & Discipline Handbook. Please note, your college application may ask you to report instances of academic dishonesty.</p> <p>We encourage you to talk to your teachers if you are not sure how to use or cite information that is not your own original work.</p>
<p>Checking Grades</p>	<p>Grades are available to view and monitor via Infinite Campus. Parents may check grade summaries and dates of upcoming assessments. Assessments may take several days to grade and enter in Infinite Campus.</p> <p>Grade reports are created as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress Reports (Every 4.5 Weeks) • Report Cards (End of the Semester: 18-week and 36-week)