

8th Grade Science Class Guidelines

CASSIDY CRUZ

ROOM 107

E-mail: Cassidy.cruz@comalisd.org (this is the preferred method of contact)

Phone: (726) 842-0848

Conference Period: _____ Period

Website: Go to MVMS website > Administration > Staff Directory > go to Cassidy Cruz

(I plan to post important updates, announcements, calendars, reviews and some assignments here. My Remind news feed will also link to my webpage.)

Parent Square: Parent Square is a messaging system that I utilize to keep students and parents informed of important dates and reminders. Students are encouraged to sign up as well. More information is coming regarding Parent Square.

General Class Rules & Expectations:

- Come to class with a positive attitude and ready to learn. You are expected to actively participate each day!
- Enter the classroom quietly, gather the supplies needed for the day, and be seated and working on the Do First by the time the tardy bell rings.
- Show respect for your classmates, your teacher and all property in the classroom, both personal and school property/equipment.
- Listen to, and follow directions. I ALWAYS explain everything that you need to know or do. Please pay attention!
- Food, drinks and gum are not allowed. Water is OK.
- Clean up after yourself each day. Return any supplies/equipment neatly to its proper location.
- Class will not be dismissed until all supplies are put away properly, and all lab stations are cleaned as instructed.
- Follow all school rules at all times, as well as all rules posted in Mrs. Cruz's classroom.
- Comal ISD and MVMS student handbook guidelines are followed regarding classroom behavior and expectations.

Tutorials:

Tutorials will be held every morning from 8:10 – 8:35 except for when I am on duty. The hours will be posted on my door. I am here to help you, but you have to seek help if you need it!

Supplies:

You are expected to come to class prepared with the supplies you will need to be successful. You will not be issued a textbook, but will be creating your own “textbook” in class in your Interactive Notebook/Journal. You will be free to take your journal home as needed to work on assignments and study for tests, but you **MUST** have these in class each day. If you do not have them, you will still be responsible for entering the information as instructed.

The supplies you need for science include:

- | | | |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|
| - composition book (100 pages, <u>not</u> plastic) | - Colored Pencils | -Three prong folder |
| - pen/pencil (bring with you everyday!) | - Glue Sticks | |

If you fail to bring a pen/pencil with you, you can ask for one from Mrs. Cruz. Hold up the appropriate classroom signal to inform Mrs. Cruz of your need for a pencil. Sharpen your pencil before the bell rings each day!

Boxes of supplies for each table will be used as needed. These supplies will be used for science assignments **ONLY** and only when instructed. All supplies are numbered according to their assigned box and assigned table. If you take or break any of my supplies, you will be expected to replace it at your own expense. When you get your table box, you should check it to make sure everything is there. If something is missing, you should notify me immediately.

These supplies are **NOT** to be used in place of the regular supplies you are required to have each day.

Grading Policy:

- **Daily Work/Homework = 25% of your nine weeks grade** – In-class Assignments, Homework, Participation, etc.
- **Quizzes/Common Assessments = 35% of your nine weeks grade** – Quizzes, District Common Assessments
- **Major Grades/Projects = 40% of your nine weeks grade** – Tests, Projects, Journal Check (end of each nine weeks)
- *NOTE: Lab assignments can fall into any of these categories, depending on the level of involvement required*
- Grades will be posted by Student ID number every Monday in the classroom. It is the student's responsibility to check his/her grade every week to monitor his/her progress.
- Progress reports will be handed out at the end of the 3 week grading period.
- Each nine weeks will account for 45%, and the semester exam will account for 10% of the semester average.

Late Work:

In order to develop responsibility, scheduling and time management, it is very important that students turn in work on time. We will follow the District's Policy on late assignments. Work that is 1 day late will receive 80% of the credit. 2 days late will receive 60% of the credit. Work that is **3 or more days late will not receive credit**. If the student habitually fails to turn in assignments on time, he/she may be assigned a detention to complete the work.

Makeup Work:

We understand that absences sometimes occur. It is always the **student's responsibility** to find out what assignments have been missed upon returning to class. Arrangements must be made to come in before school, during Hawk Time, or by appointment after school to make up tests or quizzes. **Time will not be used during class to make up missing assignments.**

Hall Passes:

You are expected to stay in the classroom during class time and will not be allowed out of class. It is your responsibility to bring everything with you to class and take care of a restroom break, getting water, etc. during the passing period. If there does end up being a situation in which you need to leave the classroom, you **MUST** have a pass written by Mrs. Cruz or another teacher.

Tardies:

It is important that you are in class on time each day, and ready to learn. You are expected to be seated, with your materials, and working on the warm-up when the tardy bell rings. If you are tardy, you will automatically receive a lunch detention.

Positive Incentives:

- Hawk Way Ticket (turn in for a raffle drawing)
- Verbal Praise
- Positive Parent Contact
- Choice of partner/group
- Lab assistant during a demonstration
- 5 minutes of free class time

Consequences:

- Verbal or Written Warning/Back on Track Ticket
- Seat Change
- Removal from Activity/Project
- Parent Contact/Conference
- Lunch Detention
- Office Referral

A difference of opinion will be discussed outside of class time and will be done so in a civilized manner.

Argumentative discussions that involve yelling are unacceptable. Arguing with the teacher in the classroom will **not** be tolerated. Extreme behavior may result in an immediate office referral.

Keep this sheet in your Science Folder for your reference throughout the year. Both the student and parent need to sign the signature page, and safety contract, and return them to Mrs. Cruz by Friday, August 22nd.

8th Grade Science Class Guidelines

Please sign and return this page to Mrs. Cruz by Friday, August 22nd

I have read, understand, and agree to follow Mrs. Cruz's guidelines for the 2025-2026 school year.

Student Name (Printed)

Student Signature

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Main Contact Number _____ Other Contact Number(s) _____

E-Mail Address _____

If you wish to have me add you to "Parent Square" check which ones you wish to have me add:

*phones must have SMS/text capabilities

☐ Main contact number ☐ Other contact number ☐ email

****What would be the best way to contact you? _____

2nd Parent/Guardian (if you wish to share this information)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Main Contact Number _____ Other Contact Number(s) _____

E-Mail Address _____

If you wish to have me add you to "Parent Square" check which ones you wish to have me add:

*phones must have SMS/text capabilities

☐ Main contact number ☐ Other contact number ☐ email

****What would be the best way to contact you? _____

For my own reference: (this is simply to help me plan logistics of research projects and has no bearing on grades)

Does your child have internet access at home? _____

Thank you for your time!!!!