

GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET

PHYSICS (482)

Teacher: Mr. Ben Fischer (Rm. 300, Office – Rm.301)

Contact info: Email bfischer@summit.k12.nj.us; Voicemail (908) 273-1494 x7095

Website: Google Classroom (by invitation)

Textbook: Conceptual Physics by Paul Hewitt (12th Ed)

Extra Help: 7:20 am all weekdays, and after school until 4 pm Mon-Wed, Science Help Center

Course Policies

Bring to Class:

- Pen or pencil
- 1-inch, 3-ring binder to keep notes, handouts distributed in class, completed homework assignments, quizzes, labs, etc.
- Scientific or Graphing Calculator
- Chromebook

Classroom Expectations

1. You are here to learn. Your classmates and I are here to learn with you.
2. You are expected to show respect for all people and items in this room. Treatment of another person or their ideas in any way that harms the learning environment is unacceptable.
3. Be on time. Be seated and ready to learn with class materials out when the bell rings.
4. This is physics class. Students should not be working on materials from other classes.
5. Phone and headphone use is not permitted in this class, save for occasional educational or accommodation purposes.
6. Calculators are required for class and assessments. Use of a phone calculator is not allowed. To borrow a calculator for any purpose, you must exchange your phone until you return the calculator, as well as forfeit the ability to resubmit the assessment. If acquiring a personal-use calculator may be a problem, please contact me immediately.
7. Food is not permitted in class. This is a school policy for all science labs.
8. Bathroom & Water Fountain: One person out at a time. Your ID is required to scan into the restrooms.
9. Intentional violation of these expectations will result in a loss of classwork points and/or resubmission privileges.

Attendance & Make-up Work

1. It is very important that you are here.
2. Each student is responsible for obtaining any assignments missed due to an absence. Check Google Classroom first, then your peers, then with me. In general, students are allowed one day to make up missing work for each day absent. For example, a student who is absent for two days will have two days to turn in any missing assignments.
 - Absent the day due = due the day you return
 - Absent the day the homework is assigned = due the day after you return
3. If a student is absent the day of an exam or quiz, they are expected to complete it as soon as possible, usually the next day. If additional material was covered on the day of the absence, they may take it after the day of their return. Please contact me for specifics.
4. If a student is absent for more than a day, make arrangements immediately upon your return as to when the assessment will be made up.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is both a schoolwide policy AND a classroom policy. Plagiarism is a form of cheating in which you present another person's ideas or words as your own. A student who attempts to communicate with another student during an assessment will have their assessment grade reduced by 50%, or reduced to a 0 in extreme cases. Plagiarism on labs, projects, and other assignments will result in a 0 for all students involved.

Safety in the Laboratory

Safety first! You are expected to learn and obey the [safety rules](#) at all times. Failure to do so will result in point deduction from your lab grade and possible removal from the classroom. You will confirm you have reviewed these rules on the Student and Parent/Guardian forms. This includes following all instructions from myself.

Extra Help

Feel free to stop by my room for extra help Monday-Friday before school (7:20 am-7:45 am) and Monday-Thursday after school (2:50 pm-4:00 pm). You can also stop by the Science Help Center for assistance from myself or other physics teachers.

Grading Criteria

<i>Category</i>	<i>Weight</i>	<i>Assignments</i>	<i>Description</i>
Assessments	50%	Exams	~75 points, about once per unit
		Quizzes	~25 points, about every 2 weeks
Classwork	40%	Participation	10 points, per cycle
		Labs	~40 points, ~weekly
Homework	10%	Homework	10 points, per cycle
		Cycle Reflections	4 points, per cycle

Assessments

Students should expect a quiz (worth ~25 points) about every 2 cycles, and exams (worth ~75 points) at the end of a unit. An exam may occasionally be replaced by a project of similar weight. If a student is absent the day of an exam or quiz, they are expected to complete it as soon as possible, usually the next day.

Resubmissions

Students are able to resubmit their work on exams and quizzes* to earn back up to full credit. They are able to fill out a [Resubmission Form](#) for **each incorrect question**. The goal of the resubmission form is to show that you understand your mistake, and that you can justify the correct answer.

A resubmission that simply states the correct answer without the process through which it was learned or the reasoning behind the mistake will be returned for no credit. Students *cannot* resubmit skipped problems, incomplete problems, or missing units for points. Students *must* cite some sort of reasoning behind their mistakes, and cite evidence-based reasoning behind their correct answer (for example, explaining how we learned a certain idea from a lab or class activity).

Students are able to complete resubmissions during allotted time slots before and after school. Resubmissions are a privilege that all students are given, but the ability to resubmit work may be temporarily or permanently revoked due to behavioral or academic concerns. *Students are able to resubmit quizzes only if they are in good standing, with no 0s in the gradebook for the associated content (missing HW, labs, etc.).

Classwork

Our class follows the [ISLE Methodology](#). This is a student-driven, inquiry-based, humanistic approach to learning that closely mirrors the historical development of scientific ideas. Students participate in a wide range of activities that allow them to discover, explain, and test their ideas regarding new phenomena. Engagement in these activities is expected, and students receive a classwork grade for their participation. If a student is absent, they are expected to reach out to other students or myself to complete the missing classwork. Students are given a classwork handout for each 4-day cycle, and receive a grade for their classwork participation at the end of the cycle.

Lab periods occur about once a week. Students work in groups and complete a more formal investigation into an unknown phenomenon or existing scientific idea. Lab makeups will usually be case-by-case, and may involve an alternative assignment.

Late homework/labs/reflections are accepted, but at a loss to the overall grade. 25% of the overall point total will be deducted for each additional school day until the assignment is turned in. For example, a 40-point lab turned in 2 full days late can earn a maximum of a 20. By this logic, work turned in 4 or more days late is not worth any points.

Homework

Homework is distributed per cycle, and checked every day. Students are assigned to work on the homework each night, answering the questions that pertain to the day's topic. These assignments are not intended to be busy work, but to act as an extension of the thinking we did during class. These homework assignments are worth 10 points. Similar to labs, 25% will be deducted for each day the assignment is submitted late.

Accommodations

Situations sometimes come up in life that make it difficult to focus on schoolwork. With all assignments, I am always open to making accommodations for your circumstances. I welcome students to reach out to me with any additional needs, questions, or concerns they have about their performance in class. I'm looking forward to a fantastic year of collaboration and science!

Course Syllabus

<u>Units</u>	<u>Textbook</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>
1. Motion	Ch 2-3	3 weeks
2. Forces	Ch 4	3 weeks
3. Momentum	Ch 5,6	3 weeks
4. Energy	Ch 7	5 weeks
5. Space Science	Ch 9,10	3 weeks
6. Electricity and Magnetism	Ch 22-25	8 weeks
7. Waves and Sound	Ch 19-21	4 weeks
8. Light and Optics	Ch 26,28,29	4 weeks
9. Earth Science	Supplement	1 week

Please be sure to complete the [Student](#) and [Parent/Guardian](#) forms in order to confirm that you have read over this information. Additionally, make sure you have read and reviewed the [Safety Contract](#).