2020-2021 Course Syllabus 6th grade Science Mrs. Reichert

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Welcome back! As a sixth grader at Avon Middle School, this year will bring new and exciting learning opportunities as well as additional responsibilities that you didn't have as a fifth-grader. Remember that it takes both hard work and excellent work habits to be a successful student.

<u>Supply List</u>: You are expected to bring the following supplies to class:

*Digital Device *Folder *GREEN spiral notebook *Scissors

*Sharpened pencil *Colored pencils *Highlighter *Ruler *Agenda

Science Labs: Labs this year will be limited due to the current circumstances and will be performed mainly by the teacher until District Guidelines concerning Covid have been updated. If and when Science Labs are able to be performed by students, they are meant to enhance and apply the knowledge students gained through researching the chapter. Breaking lab rules will not be tolerated, and due to safety reasons, more serious attention will be given to breaking lab rules. If a student fails to complete the prep activities for the lab or choose to act irresponsibly with the lab tools, they will not be permitted to participate in the lab on that day. If either of these choices persists, I will be in contact with the parent to discuss other options for the student on lab days.

<u>PowerSchool</u>: *Science grades are calculated on a weighted system.

Every graded assignment, quiz, test, or project is assigned a point value and then weighted towards the students' overall grade for the quarter as follows:

Tests: 30%

Quizzes: 25%

Labs/Projects: 20%

Classwork: 15% Homework: 10%

*I highly recommend that parents and students check Power School at least once weekly in order to remain current on a student's grade so that any questions or problems can be answered or resolved in a timely manner. Any comments regarding an assignment including progress, needs review, missing and late, will be listed in PowerSchool. Letter grades are automatically assigned at the end of a quarter based upon Avon's Board approved grading scale. *Final quarter averages will NOT be rounded—no exceptions!

<u>Vocabulary</u> is IMPERATIVE in guiding the student to becoming a successful sixth grade scientist. Reviewing vocabulary words and definitions, and finding ways to incorporate the words into conversation will enhance the student's ability to succeed. Students will be given class time to create vocabulary cards, so that time at home they can focus on reviewing them.

<u>Homework</u> will include any classwork that IS NOT completed during the day it was assigned. Students currently have an EXTENDED amount of time per science class. Reviewing for Chapter Tests multiple times during the week develops good study habits in the future. Most of this practice will come during class time. However, some students may need more outside time to prepare for assessments.

<u>Study Guides</u> will be assigned a week in advance of a test to be completed by the day prior to the assessment. *The Study Guide reveals the types of questions that will be asked on each chapter test.* Students will receive 15 homework points if the assignment is complete and valid effort is apparent. It is important to note that these points cannot be "made up" because answers are checked during class.

Assessments:

<u>Tests</u> will be given at the end of each science chapter. These tests will be announced well in advance to allow ample time for students to study.

<u>Quizzes</u> may be given periodically throughout the chapter.

<u>Exit Tickets</u> may also be used to evaluate daily and *might not* be announced.

Students should always be ready by reviewing notes, vocabulary, and keeping up with assignments.

<u>Extra Copies</u> of assignments are located in Google Classroom *If a student is **Missing an Assignment**, they may get an extra copy to complete it and turn it in for late credit.

- *Make-up Work will be available in Google Classroom.
- *It is a student's responsibility to check Google Classroom when returning to school.
- *Students will have the same number of days as absent to make up the work. After that, the absent work will be considered "late".
- *If a student is unclear about any missed assignments, he/she should see me as soon as possible for help.

Any work turned in late will result in a 10% deduction per day. After 5 days late, work will be worth no more than 50% of the grade. No exceptions!

Accountability: *Students will be held accountable for their participation in maintaining a positive learning environment for themselves and their classmates. *Students are expected to follow all rules stated in the Avon Middle School handbook, as well as the classroom rules posted clearly in the front of the room. *Verbal warnings will be given for reminders to students to reinforce choices made during instructional time.
*If a student continues to disrupt the learning of others or be disrespectful, I will contact the parent directly along with issuing a detention or office referral being given per my discretion.

<u>Virtual Learners</u>

- *Logged on for attendance
- *Being available during assigned class period from beginning to end
- *Complete same assignments as in class learners
- *Communication through email
- *All above policies pertain to virtual learners
- *Time limits will be given on all assessments to avoid "cheating"
- *May be completing small group assignments with in-class learners
- *Behavior???