

THERON L. SWAINSTON MIDDLE SCHOOL 20/21



School-Wide Rules (Safety, Organization, Achievement, Respect)

1. Keep food and drink in the cafeteria.
2. Keep hands, feet, objects, and unkind words to yourself.
3. The Swainston Dress Code will be strictly enforced. Hats, unacceptable clothing, and other nuisance items will be confiscated and returned only to a parent/guardian.
4. Regulation 5131 states: All jeans, pants, and trousers must be secured at waist level. **Sagging is strictly prohibited.**
5. Regulation 5136 states: The use of personal cell phones, beepers, pagers or any other electronic communication devices is prohibited on all CCSD campuses during the instructional day. As long as use is not disruptive, students may use these devices during scheduled lunch periods and while on the bus to text or make phone calls. These devices must remain off during instructional time including any time between classes. These items will be confiscated if used other than the times indicated above and if used in a disruptive or threatening manner. Also, Theron L. Swainston Middle School will not be responsible for lost or stolen electronic communication devices.
6. iPods, MP3 players, and any electronic devices or nuisance items are not permitted on campus. If students choose to bring these items to school, and they are lost or stolen, Theron L. Swainston Middle School will not be responsible for conducting any type of search or investigation to help retrieve them. Students are encouraged to leave all items of value at home.
7. Place all litter in trash cans.
8. Students will be prepared and ready for instruction daily.
9. **Students will refrain from chewing gum on campus.**
10. Show respect for yourself, others, and school property.

Follow the Thunderbird Norms

1. NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO HURT ANOTHER PERSON.
2. EDUCATION AND THE CLASSROOM ARE ESSENTIAL PRIORITIES.
3. SHOW PRIDE IN YOUR SCHOOL.
4. ALWAYS ACT AS A RESPECTFUL LADY OR GENTLEMAN.
5. NEVER BEHAVE IN A WAY TO MISREPRESENT YOURSELF, YOUR FAMILY, YOUR PEERS, OR YOUR SCHOOL.

Course Expectations

Science 7

BEHAVIOR

Progressive Discipline Procedures

- 1st Offense – Verbal Warning
- 2nd Offense – Phone call home with teacher consequence
- 3rd Offense – Parent Conference with counselor
- 4th Offense – Social worker intervention
- 5th Offense – Dean's referral
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**Students engaging in severe classroom disruptions will be subject to immediate dean's referral and discipline.*

TARDY POLICY & ABSENCES

- 1st - Warning
- 2nd - Parent Contact
- 3rd - Lunch Detention
- 4th - After School Detention
- 5th - After School Campus Beautification Project
- 6th - Star On

All Absences are now considered unexcused.

**Students with excessive tardy notifications will be investigated for possible habitual truancy issues which would result in the issuance of a citation, if warranted, in accordance with NRS 392.149 (NRS 392.144).*

Emergency School Closure:

In the event that there is an emergency school closure, teachers will be posting instructions in Google Classroom. If a student does not have access to Google Classroom, how to access non-Internet based materials will be provided at that time. In the event of an emergency school closure, students are asked if possible to check into Google Classroom twice a week to complete an activity.

Science 7 Overview

Seventh grade follows Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Within the (NGSS), there are three distinct and equally important dimensions to learning science. These dimensions are combined to form each standard—or performance expectation—and each dimension works with the other two to help students build a cohesive understanding of science over time. The three dimensions are Crosscutting Concepts, Science and Engineering Practices, and Disciplinary Core Ideas. This one year required course for seventh grade students focuses on understanding Chemistry, Ecosystems, Earth Resources, and Geosciences. The National Research Council's (NRC) Framework describes a vision of what it means to be

proficient in science; it rests on a view of science as both a body of knowledge and an evidence-based, model and theory building enterprise that continually extends, refines, and revises knowledge. Critical thinking, collaboration, accuracy, and communication skills will be practiced as students extend their scientific literacy. Instructional practices will incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to our society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course.

Course Goals:

- To conduct investigations showing how matter interacts at the atomic and molecular scales emphasizing the evidence of chemical reactions and the law of conservation of mass. [MS-PS1-1, MS-PS1-2, MS-PS1-3, MS-PS1-5]
- To implement the design process to investigate the release or absorption of thermal energy during chemical reactions. [MS-PS1-6, MS-ETS1-3, MS-ETS1-4]
- To develop and use models that show how matter and energy are cycled within an ecosystem through the processes of photosynthesis and cellular respiration. [MS-LS1-6, MS-LS1-7, MS-LS2-3]
- To explain how resource availability, changes in an environment, and interactions among organisms affect populations in predictable patterns. [MS-LS2-1, MS-LS2-2, MS-LS2-4]
- To evaluate solutions that consider scientific, economic, and social factors associated with preserving the environment. [MS-LS2-5, MS-ETS1-1, MS-ETS1-2]
- To explain how an uneven distribution of natural resources and human consumption patterns impact society and Earth's systems. [MS-ESS3-1, MS-ESS3-4]
- To model the cyclical flow of energy and matter involved in the formation of rocks and minerals. [MS-ESS2-1]
- To examine geological evidence explaining how the Earth has changed throughout its history using varying time and spatial scales. [MS-ESS1-4, MS-ESS2-2, MS-ESS2-3]
- To use existing data of natural hazards to forecast catastrophic events and understand how the development of new technologies can mitigate their effects. [MS-ESS3-2]

Course Syllabus. The following syllabus provides an umbrella idea that we will be following throughout the year:

- 1st Semester
 - 9 Weeks -- Unit 1: Matter and Chemical Reactions
 - 4 Weeks -- Unit 2: Matter and Energy in Ecosystems
 - 3.5 Weeks -- Unit 3: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
 - 1st Semester Final Exam
- 2nd Semester
 - 3.5 Weeks -- Unit 3: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
 - 5 Weeks -- Unit 4: Earth's Resources
 - 8 Weeks -- Unit 5: Dynamic Earth
 - 2nd Semester Final Exam
- Course activities
 - Laboratory activities
 - Class presentations
 - Group activities
 - Individual & Group projects
- Evaluation
 - Criteria for arriving at students grades (Percentages Broken Down)
 - Assessments – Tests, Quiz 50 %
 - Projects 30%
 - Class work/Labs 15 %
 - Homework 5 %

Semester Grades

- Quarter One & Two = 45 % each - Semester Exam = 10%
- Quarter Three & four = 45% each - Semester Exam = 10%
- Explanation of student grades
 - A 100 – 90%
 - B 89 – 80%
 - C 79 – 70%
 - D 69 – 60%
 - F 59 – 0%
- How and when students will be advised of their grades
 - Parents and students are urged to check the Infinite Campus Portal regularly.
 - Passwords will be provided through the Infinite Campus sign-up – Only one ID/password necessary.
 - Grades will be posted periodically in class and daily in the Infinite Campus Portal.
- Citizenship/Behavior Expectations
 - Students are expected to follow the Swainston Norms and CLASS Acronym for rules.
 1. **C**ome to class prepared and on time.
 2. **L**isten to the teacher and your peers.
 3. **A**ct responsibly and respectfully.
 4. **S**it in seat or designated area.
 5. **S**tay focused and on-task.
 - In addition to following the CLASS rules, students will be expected to comply with and follow procedures and rules in the Theron L. Swainston Student Safety Agreement.
- Make-up Work
 - Students are responsible for asking for their make-up work immediately upon their return.
 - Students are given 3 days after an absence to complete assignments or work assigned while absent. If more time is required, students must make arrangements with the teacher.
 - Late work will be accepted up to one (1) week after assigned date unless otherwise stipulated..
- Absences/Excused Absence Notes are turned into the office before or after school.

Notebook Expectations/Responsibilities

- Students are expected to write down class objectives, Do Now questions & answers, and homework assignments in their interactive notebooks on a daily basis. **Parents are expected to check the notebook daily.**
- Supplies needed for this course
 - **2 composition notebooks (1 per semester)**
 - 1 package of colored pencils
 - 2 glue sticks
 - 1 pair of scissors
 - 1 package of loose-leaf paper
- Teacher's hours of availability
 - Before School 7:30 – 8:00 AM -- Limited
 - After School 2:15 – 2:26 PM
- Laboratory Rules:
 - **Student must return signed safety agreement before they can participate in labs.**
 - **Student must score at least a 90% on lab safety test to participate in the labs.**
 - Safety glasses must be worn at all times when required.
 - Students must observe safe behavior at all times.

Note: Student will be removed from room during labs for any of the above reasons or at the discretion of the teacher to insure their safety and the safety others.

Theron L. Swainston Science Safety Agreement

PURPOSE

Science is a hands-on laboratory class. You will be doing many laboratory activities that require the use of hazardous chemicals. **Safety** in the science classroom is the **#1 Priority** for students, teachers, and parents. To ensure a safe science classroom, a list of rules has been developed and provided to you in the student safety contract. These rules must be followed at all times. **Both you and a parent/guardian must sign one copy before you can participate in the laboratory.**

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times in the laboratory.
2. Follow all written and verbal directions carefully. If you do not understand a direction or part of a procedure, ask the instructor before proceeding.
3. When first entering a science room, do not touch any equipment, chemicals, or other materials until you are told to do so.
4. Do not eat food, drink beverages, or chew gum in the laboratory.
5. Perform only those experiments authorized by the instructor. Carefully follow all instructions both written and oral.
6. Read all procedures thoroughly before entering the laboratory. Never fool around in the laboratory. Horseplay, practical jokes and pranks are dangerous and prohibited.
7. Work areas should be kept clean and tidy at all times.
8. Keep isles clear. Push your chair under the desk when not in use.
9. Know locations and operating procedures of all safety equipment.
10. Dispose of all chemical waste properly. Never mix chemicals in sink drains.
11. Set up and use the prescribed apparatus as directed in the laboratory instructions or by the teacher.
12. Keep hands away from face, eyes, mouth and body while using chemicals. Wash your hands with soap and water after performing all experiments. Clean, rinse, and wipe dry all work surfaces and apparatus at the end of the experiment. Return all equipment clean and in working order to the proper storage area.
13. Experiments must be personally monitored at all times. You will be assigned a lab station at which to work. Do not wander around the room, distract other students, or interfere which the laboratory experiments of others.
14. Students are never permitted in the science storage rooms or preparation areas.
15. Know what to do if there is a fire drill during a lab period; containers must be closed, and any electrical equipment turned off.
16. Any time chemicals or glassware are used; students will wear safety goggles. There will be no exceptions to this rule.
17. Dress properly during a laboratory activity. Long hair, dangling jewelry, and loose or baggy clothing are a hazard in the laboratory, and must be secured. Shoes must completely cover the foot, NO sandals allowed.

ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

18. Report any accident or injury to the teacher immediately.
19. If a chemical should splash in your eye(s) or on our skin, immediately flush with running water from the eye wash station or safety shower for at least 20 minutes. Notify the teacher immediately.

HANDLING CHEMICALS

20. Do not touch, taste or smell any chemical unless instructed to do so.
21. Check the label on chemicals bottles twice before removing any of the contents. Take only as much chemical as needed.
22. Never return unused chemicals to the original containers.
23. When transferring reagents from one container to another hold the container away from your body.
24. Never remove chemicals from the laboratory classroom.
25. Take extreme care when transferring chemicals from one part of the room to another. Hold them securely and walk carefully.

HANDLING GLASSWARE AND EQUIPMENT

26. Never handle broken glassware with your bare hands.
27. When removing an electrical plug from the wall socket, grasp the plug not the cord. Hands must be completely dry before touching an electrical switch, plug or outlet.
28. Examine glassware before each use. Never use chipped or cracked glassware. Never use dirty glassware.
29. If you do not know how to use a piece of equipment, ask for help.
30. Report damaged equipment immediately.

Please sign and return this last page only

Science 7 -- Swainston Middle School Course Expectations 20/21

Student's Name:

Student's Number:

Student:

- ☐ I have read and understand the school rules listed above.
- ☐ I have read and understand the progressive discipline steps for inappropriate behavior and tardies.
- ☐ I have read and understand the course expectations provided for this course.

Signature of Student

Date

Parent/Guardian:

- ☐ I have read and understand the school rules pertaining to my child.
- ☐ I have read and understand the progressive discipline steps for inappropriate behavior and tardies.
- ☐ I have read and understand what is expected of my child in this course.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

STUDENT AGREEMENT

I, _____, have read and agree to follow all of the safety rules set forth in this contract. I realize that I must obey these rules to insure my own safety and that of my fellow students and instructors. I will cooperate to the fullest extent with my instructor and fellow students to maintain a safe lab environment. I will also closely follow the oral and written instructions provided by the instructor. I am aware that any violation of the safety contract that results in unsafe behavior on my part may result in being removed from the laboratory.

Student signature

Date

PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We feel that you should be informed regarding the school's effort to create and maintain a safe science classroom/laboratory environment. With the cooperation of the instructors, parents and students, a safety instruction program can eliminate, prevent and correct possible hazards. You should be aware of the safety instructions your son/daughter will receive before engaging in any laboratory work. Please read the list of safety rules above. No student will be permitted to perform laboratory activities unless this contract is signed by both the student and the parent/guardian and is on file with the teacher. Your signature on this contract indicates that you have read this Student Safety Contract, are aware of the measures taken to insure the safety of your student in the science laboratory, and will instruct your student to uphold his/her agreement to follow these rules and procedures in the laboratory.

Parent signature

Date