**MARCE HERZ MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**SCIENCE DEPARTMENT SYLLABUS**

**Mrs. Wilkins**

I want to welcome you to 7th Grade at Marce Herz Middle School. We are excited to begin a fun and challenging new year. The following document will give you the needed information to be successful this year.

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| **Course Overview--**  **Unit 1- Nature of Science:**   * Lab Safety and equipment * Measurement and Metric system * CER * Scientific law vs Scientific theory   **Unit 2- Physical Science:**   * Matter * Chemical Reactions * Synthetic Materials   **Unit 3- Life Science:**   * Ecology and Organisms * Ecosystems   **S.H.A.R.E- 1 Week unit:**   * Healthy Relationships * Reproduction and Sexual Health * Contraceptives and STIs   **Unit 4-Earth Science:**   * Geology * Earth History * Plate Tectonics | **Communication:** [skwilkins@washoeschools.net](mailto:skwilkins@washoeschools.net)   * Email is the best method of communication with the teacher, please allow 24 hours for a response. * The Team will send emails twice a month with important events and information. It will be through infinite campus. **These are DO NOT REPLY WCSD messages so please read them.** * Planners will be written in daily and will be checked in Advisory class. * Grades will be posted on Infinite Campus by Monday of the following week or sooner.   **Students should talk/email Mrs. Wilkins when**:  They have been absent and need make-up work  They are missing an assignment and need to fix it  They don’t understand the learning and need help  They just want to talk (any topic is ok)  **Parents should talk/email Mrs. Wilkins when**:  They are concerned about progress with student  They want to verify student is advocating for themselves  They want to meet with the team of teachers |
| **Grading Policy--**  **Academic Grade:**   * Formative Assessments (40%): Journals, daily assignments, warm-ups, lab activities, quizzes * Summative Assessments (60%): Tests, lab reports, projects, presentations   **Behavior Grade:**   * Participation, behavior, being prepared for class, following expectations   ***Grades will be entered into Infinite Campus by Monday of the following week***  ***\*\*Please check Infinite Campus weekly to monitor student grades\*\****  **M**=missing assignment  **L**=late assignment (no penalty if during unit)  **Blank**= hasn’t been graded or upcoming assignment | **Late Work:**   * Students can turn in late work and make-up assignments until the summative unit assessment for full credit. * Students will receive a maximum score of 80% on assignments turned in after the unit assessment. It is the student’s responsibility to get missing work when returning from an absence.   **Test Retake:**   * Tests can be retaken if there are no missing assignments. * Retakes will be taken 2 weeks after the original assessment during advisory. * The higher of the two test scores minus 10% on the retake will be recorded in the grade book. * All reteach assignments must be turned in by Thursday before the retake then students will receive a blue retake ticket. |
| **PROCEDURES--**  **FOOD**: Eating and chewing gum is allowed in class BUT NOT during SCIENCE LABS! All liquids must be in a water bottle that will not spill if knocked over. NO OPEN CONTAINERS.  **RESTROOM**: Students must fill out their planners and take the planner with them to use the restroom (this is their hall pass). Students will not be allowed to leave class within the first and last 10 minutes of class. | **TARDY**: Students are expected to get to class before the bell rings. Tardies will be recorded as part of the behavior grade. Excessive tardiness may result in a visit to the Dean with possible other consequences.  **NO NAME PAPERS**: Any paper turned in without a name will be posted on the front board to be claimed. If students think they turned in work but it is marked MISSING in I.C. they should check the No name board to claim their work and resubmit it to be graded. |
| **ENTERING THE CLASSROOM**: Students will pick up any handouts needed from the basket on the side counter. They will then get their SCIENCE JOURNALS from the back shelf and sit in their assigned seat. When the bell rings, students will begin work on the DAILY WARM-UP posted on the front boards. Students will have 3-5 minutes to complete the work then the class will go over the questions | **PLANNERS:** Students will write in their planners daily. All objectives, assignments, homework and upcoming tests will be posted on the front board. Planner checks will be graded in Advisory.  **SUBMITTING WORK**: All work will be due by the beginning of the next class. If students do not finish work in class, it is EXPECTED to be done as homework with no penalty. Paper work will be turned in to the basket on the back counter. ONLINE assignments will be submitted on TEAMS. |
| **HOMEWORK:** Students can expect homework about 1 day a week. But all work not completed in class, absent work or missing assignments must be done outside of class. | **JOURNALS:** Students will keep a composition notebook in class on the designated shelf. Students will use their journals daily for warm-ups, notes, learning activities and studying for tests. Students are expected to keep their journal organized with a table of contents. |
| **LABS:** Lab safety is VERY IMPORTANT! Lab contracts will need to be signed by all students and parents. | **GT/EARLY FINISHERS:** In science there is always more learning that can happen. Students who complete work quicker than others will be given a chance to learn more about a topic or explore correlating topics. DOING NOTHING will never be an option! |
| **ADVOCATE:** Students are encouraged to ask questions, email or talk to Mrs. Wilkins regarding grades and absent work. |  |

**National Board of Professional Teaching Standards:** Mrs. Wilkins will be working on becoming a National Board Certified Teacher this year. More information and permission slips will be sent home in the upcoming weeks. This is an opportunity for her to improve her teaching to the highest level.