

## Williamston Middle School - Science 8

School Year 2018-2019

Instructor: Dan Keith – Room A9

### Contact information:

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Classroom Web site - [www.NeatScience.com](http://www.NeatScience.com)

Join **Remind** for this class by texting the class code **@3c77kk** to 81010

### Course Description SCIENCE 8

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science** utilizes a middle school science curriculum called **IQWST** (pronounced *eye-quest*), which stands for *Investigating and Questioning our World through Science and Technology* that is aligned to the Michigan Science Standards (MSS). Students will work individually, in pairs, in teams, and as a whole class to make sense of how things happen in the world around them, and why.

Units of study include: How Will It Move?, How Is The Earth Changing?, How Does Food Provide Energy To Do Things?, Why Do Organisms Look The Way They Do?

Both semesters will emphasize scientific inquiry, reflection on scientific investigation, modeling, and social implications of advances in science and technology.

### Philosophy

It is my desire that every student in my classes be successful and that each student will learn as much as they can. I believe that every student has the right to work in peace, in an atmosphere that is conducive to learning, and to be treated with the same respect that I wish to be treated. If a student decides not to participate in the course work for that particular day, that student does not have the right to disturb the other students in the class who want to work.

Science is often remembered by students as their favorite class and this could be the case for you as well. I will do my best to make this course as interesting, relevant, and as fun as I can. I will work hard and I expect you to work hard as well.

### Directions on How to Get Help, Reviews, and Testing:

For additional help, make-up, etc., I am usually available before and after school in Room A5. Please get help right away before serious problems develop.

1. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get and make up any assignments missed. *If you are present on the day before a test and absent on test day, the test must be made up on the day you return.*
2. **Being absent for a review does not excuse you from a test**, the instruction has already been done.
3. Special arrangements will be made for longer periods of absence.

### Course Materials

Textbook: We have an online, interactive textbook that students can access from any computer as long as they are logged in with their school Google account. The login is on **www.NeatScience.com** and is called **IQWST Login**

Supplies: Bring your notebook, pencil, and calculator (if you have one) to class every day. A 3-prong folder with pockets or a small three-ring binder works best but you can make up your own mind. **Spiral Binders do not work well in this class.** You need to be able to add completed tests and homework back into the notes at the correct place in time.

Online Resources: I have my own domain name on the Internet **www.NeatScience.com** and I will post daily notes, handouts, test announcements, interesting links, homework hints, pictures, and activities on that site. Just follow the **Science - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade** link.

## **Behavior Expectations**

- Respect the right of the other students to study and work.
- All lab equipment should be replaced.
- All lab materials should be handled in a safe and responsible manner.
- School policies are still in effect while in this class.

## **Detailed Information about the Grading System**

PowerSchool: Students are expected to periodically check their grades online (<http://ps.gowcs.net/public>).

### **Key to grade markings**

Grades left **blank** are assignments that need to be made up.

Grades with a **zero** and a designation of “**M**” for missing can also be made up. The zero is being used to show you what your grade will be if you fail to make up that assignment.

If the grade just contains a **zero**, then that is the final grade for that assignment.

Occasionally, there may be an assignment that a student misses and is not required to make up. In this case, a designation of “**Ex**” for exempt will appear.

## **Instructions for Work**

### Written Work

- All written work is expected to show careful effort. Leave margins. Write legibly. Use only 8.5x11 inch white paper with clean edges.
- All paper handed in must have: Name (first and last), date, and period in upper right corner.
- Notebook should be chronological and **have the ability to have handouts placed anywhere within the notes.** A spiral binder is **not** a good choice.

Homework: Most homework will be assigned from the book or will be given in class. Homework is usually expected to be completed for the next class period. Homework is an essential part of being a successful student in Science. If you do not actually complete the homework with your own thought processes you will probably be behind for the next bit of instruction.

Final Exam(s): There is a semester exam that tests your understanding of the objectives of the course based upon the state and district standards.