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EARTH SCIENCE COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Welcome to your first Regents high school science course! The Earth Science curriculum is intriguing and challenging. Maintain good study habits: stay organized, work hard, set up a quiet place to study, and don't be afraid to ask questions in class. I look forward to sharing a successful year with you!

Supplies:

1 small looseleaf binder or a 2-pocket folder for classwork, tests and quizzes
2-pocket letter-size folder for completed labs
#2 pencils
Pens: blue or black
NON-PROGRAMMABLE calculator

Resources:

Text/Review Book: Amsco Reviewing Earth Science: The Physical Setting
by Thomas McGuire
Earth Science Reference Tables (ESRT)
<http://smsearthscience.weebly.com>
Castlelearning.com website

Grading:

All assigned work counts toward your grade. Assignments are given specific point values. Your grade is determined by dividing the total number of points you earn on assignments by the number of points offered.

Tests: Cumulative quarter test at the end of each quarter: 100 points.

Quizzes: Given periodically; often worth up to 50 points; these assessments may be cumulative, with a concentration on current material.

Students **must** bring their ESRT and a non-programmable calculator to all assessments, or 1 point will be deducted from assessment score to "rent" each of these items.

Labs: Often worth 10- 40 points, depending on the scope of the lab. Late labs lose 10% of their point value per school day. If you do not have your lab completed on the date it's due, you will be asked to sign an IOU.

Homework: Students can earn up to 5 points per assignment, depending upon scope, for fully-completed and on-time work. **No partial credit will be given.** Late assignments will only be accepted if due to an excused absence.

Required Lab Work: New York State course requirements specify that each student must complete a minimum of 20 lab hours to be eligible to take the Earth Science Regents exam in June. The labs assigned during the year fulfill this lab requirement. **It is thus mandatory that you complete all assigned lab work with a passing grade in order to take the Regents exam in June. Failing labs must be redone accurately to complete lab requirement only. All labs submitted must be handwritten.**

During the course of instruction, all students will be offered the opportunity to complete higher-level lab work. Students interested in qualifying for 9th grade Honors Biology must complete each of these labs as part of their entrance requirement for this course.

TESTING DAY: **MONDAY**; alternate day is Wednesday.
EXTRA HELP DAY: **THURSDAY**

Course Credit:

Students must complete all required course work AND pass the Earth Science Regents exam to receive High School Regents credit for this course.

Students will be recommended for Honors Biology in the 9th grade when they meet one of the following requirements:

- ❖ **a final course average of 95% or higher** (not including Regents exam score) *and* achieve **90% or higher on the Regents exam in June**

- ❖ **a final course average of 90% or higher** (not including Regents exam score) *and* achieve **90% or higher on the Regents Exam in June plus successful completion of all higher-level lab work**

Students not meeting either of these criteria will be enrolled in 9th grade Regents Biology.

Parent/Guardian Communications: Students will receive itemized grade reports showing their achievement on all assigned work and assessments at the middle and end of each quarter. Grade reports require a parent/guardian signature.

Parents/guardians will be notified in a timely manner if student progress falls below course standards.

Please review course expectations with your parents/guardians, complete the form below and return it to your teacher.

We have read and reviewed the Earth Science Course Expectations information and understand the requirements for successful course completion.

STUDENT NAME

STUDENT SIGNATURE

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE: _____

Earth Science Test Corrections Policy

Test corrections give each student the opportunity to improve their test score. Test corrections are:

1. Due 2 days after a student receives their graded test.
2. Must be typed, printed and stapled to the graded exam.
3. Graded exam must be **signed by a parent or guardian**

For each incorrect question you must:

1. Retype the question, and all possible answers then indicate which answer is correct (diagrams don't have to be reproduced)
2. Explain why you think you got it wrong. (Ex: you misread the question, you ran out of time, you forget a key fact, your math was incorrect etc.)
3. Explain the correct scientific concept associated with that question

*If you need help with the corrections ask your teacher for assistance.

Points Earned:

- You can earn back up to 5% or half the percentage lost.
- If you score a 90% or under, you may earn back up to 5% depending on the quality of your corrections, correct answer, and properly following correction instructions above.
- If you score above a 90%, then you may only earn back half the percentage lost.
- For example,
 - Student A scored 94%-corrections earn back half of what was lost for a new score of 97%
 - Student B scored 84%-corrections earn back 5% for a new score of 89%
 - Student C scored 76%-corrections earn back 5% for a new score of 81%

SAMPLE

Astronomy 1 Test

10/06/14

John Smith

3. As the sun ages it will be composed of
- A. more hydrogen and less helium
 - B. **more helium and less hydrogen**
 - C. more oxygen and less carbon
 - D. less oxygen and more carbon

When answering this question I misread the question and thought it was asking which elements are in the sun now instead of later when it ages.

Scientific principle: Nuclear Fusion occurs in the sun and converts Hydrogen to Helium releasing energy, over time all the hydrogen will be used up.

