## MARCE HERZ MIDDLE SCHOOL

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT SYLLABUS

## Mrs. Bhatia

I want to welcome you to **8th 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 * Scientific Method * Graphing * Crosscutting Concepts   **Unit 2- Motion:**   * Speed, Velocity, Acceleration * Unbalanced/balanced Forces * Newton’s Laws of Motion * Mass/Weight & Gravity * Potential/Kinetic Energy   **Unit 3- Waves and Elctromagnetism:**   * Types and parts of waves * Light vs Sound waves * Electromagnetic spectrum   **Unit 4- Genetics and Evolution**   * Evidence of evolution &History of Earth * Theories of Evolution * Cladograms * Heredity * Genetics   **S.H.A.R.E- 1 Week unit:**   * Healthy Relationships * Reproduction and Sexual Health * Contraceptives and STIs | **Unit 5-Astronomy:**   * Scale * Theories of Beginning of Universe * Solar system and celestial objects * Seasons * Phases of Moon/Eclipses   **Communication:** [gbhatia@washoeschools.net](mailto:gbhatia@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 * Grades will be posted on Infinite Campus by Monday of the following week or sooner.   **Students should talk/email Mrs. Bhatia when**:   * They have been absent and need make-up work * They are missing an assignment and need a new handout * They don’t understand the learning and need help * They just want to talk (any topic is ok)   **Parents should talk/email Mrs. Bhatia 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, respect, 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  **COMPUTERS:**   * Each student is assigned a specific computer in each class. * Students must be responsible while using the computer or they will lose the privilege. * ***WIRED HEADPHONES are required for class*** * Computers will be used weekly for interactive labs, digital resources, and engaging science lessons. | **Late Work:**   * Students will receive **2 Late Work Passes per class** per **quarter** * All work turned in after the class period it is due will be considered LATE and need a pass attached to submit * **Late work will be accepted until the date of the retake summative assessment** (2 weeks after the test), then will not be accepted * LATE WORK WITHOUT AN ATTACHED PASS WILL NOT BE GRADED! * Extra late passes can be earned by attending lunch tutoring or after school homework club   **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 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 get it signed by the teacher. The planner will sit on their desk while they leave class. 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**: If students think they turned in work, but it is marked MISSING in I.C. they should check with the teacher or No name bin to claim their work and resubmit it to be graded. |
| **ENTERING THE CLASSROOM**:  -Students pick up any handouts needed from the basket at the entry table. They will then get their SCIENCE JOURNALS from the shelves 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 boards.  **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: Any** work not completed in class, absent work or missing assignments must be done outside of class as homework. | **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.  Students who do not follow lab safety procedures will lose the privlege of participating in labs. | **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 or work on late assignments. DOING NOTHING will never be an option! |