

F.E. Peacock Middle School

2016-2017

8th Grade Curriculum Night



The 8th Grade Team:

Sarah Olsen (Team Leader)- Language Arts

Melissa Miller (Team Leader)- Language Arts

Tom Novak- Mathematics

Bryan Bolton- Social Studies

Sara Svoboda- Science

Alicia Rathje- Resource

MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY SCHEDULE

6th Grade Schedule			7th Grade Schedule			8TH GRADE SCHEDULE		
1	8:00 - 8:55	CORE	1	8:00 - 8:55	CORE	1	8:00 - 8:55	CORE
2	8:58 - 9:48	CORE	2	8:58 - 9:48	CORE	2	8:58 - 9:40	ENCORE/PE
3	9:51 - 10:41	CORE	3	9:51-10:41	CORE	3	9:43 - 10:25	ENCORE/PE
4A	10:44 - 11:04	TARGET TIME	4	10:44 - 11:26	PE/ENCORE	4	10:28 - 11:18	CORE
4B	11:07 - 11:37	LUNCH	5A	11:29 - 11:49	TARGET TIME	5	11:21 12:11	CORE
5	11:40 - 12:30	CORE	5B	11:52 - 12:22	LUNCH	6A	12:14 - 12:34	TARGET TIME
6	12:33 - 1:23	CORE	6	12:25 - 1:07	PE/ENCORE	6B	12:37 - 1:07	LUNCH
7	1:26 - 2:08	PE/ENCORE	7	1:10 - 2:00	CORE	7	1:10 - 2:00	CORE
8	2:11 - 2:55	PE/ENCORE	8	2:03 - 2:55	CORE	8	2:03 - 2:55	CORE

THURSDAY SCHEDULE

6th Grade Schedule			7th Grade Schedule			8TH GRADE SCHEDULE		
1	8:00 - 8:45	CORE	1	8:00 - 8:45	CORE	1	8:00 - 8:45	CORE
2	8:48 - 9:28	CORE	2	8:48 - 9:28	CORE	2	8:48 - 9:18	ENCORE/PE
3	9:31 - 10:11	CORE	3	9:31-10:11	CORE	3	9:21 - 9:52	ENCORE/PE
4A	10:14 - 10:29	TARGET TIME	4	10:14 - 10:45	PE/ENCORE	4	9:55 - 10:35	CORE
4B	10:32 11:02	LUNCH	5A	10:48 - 11:03	TARGET TIME	5	10:38 - 11:18	CORE
5	11:05 - 11:45	CORE	5B	11:06 - 11:36	LUNCH	6A	11:21 - 11:36	TARGET TIME
6	11:48 - 12:28	CORE	6	11:39 - 12:09	PE/ENCORE	6B	11:39 - 12:09	LUNCH
7	12:31 - 1:01	PE/ENCORE	7	12:12 - 12:52	CORE	7	12:12 - 12:52	CORE
8	1:04 - 1:35	PE/ENCORE	8	12:55 - 1:35	CORE	8	12:55 - 1:35	CORE

PM ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

6th Grade Schedule			7th Grade Schedule			8TH GRADE SCHEDULE		
1	8:00 - 8:50	CORE	1	8:00 - 8:50	CORE	1	8:00 - 8:50	CORE
2	8:53 - 9:38	CORE	2	8:53 - 9:38	CORE	2	8:53 - 9:32	ENCORE/PE
3	9:41- 10:26	CORE	3	9:41- 10:26	CORE	3	9:35 - 10:14	ENCORE/PE
4A	10:29 - 10:49	TARGET TIME	4	10:29 - 11:08	PE/ENCORE	4	10:17 - 11:02	CORE
4B	10:52 - 11:22	LUNCH	5A	11:11 - 11:31	TARGET TIME	5	11:05 - 11:50	CORE
5	11:25 - 12:10	CORE	5B	11:34 - 12:04	LUNCH	6A	11:53 - 12:13	TARGET TIME
6	12:13 - 12:58	CORE	6	12:07 - 12:46	PE/ENCORE	6B	12:16 - 12:46	LUNCH
7	1:01 - 1:40	PE/ENCORE	7	12:49 - 1:34	CORE	7	12:49 - 1:34	CORE
8	1:43 - 2:22	PE/ENCORE	8	1:37 - 2:22	CORE	8	1:37 - 2:22	CORE

A	2:35-2:55	ASSEMBLY	A	2:35-2:55	ASSEMBLY	GYM	2:35-2:55	ASSEMBLY
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F.E. Peacock Lunchroom Rules

- All students will be able to choose where they sit for lunch. They will sign in each quarter and that will be their seat for the remainder of the quarter. Lunchroom supervisors may change their seat for inappropriate behavior.
- The lunchroom will be in sections: 1, 2, and 3. Students will be dismissed by section and table to go to the vending machines, hot lunch line, and get their purchased milk.
- Students will raise their hands to throw out garbage, go to the restroom, etc.

8th Grade Lunch Rules

- **Milk costs \$.50.**
- **Utensils**
 - You must bring your own eating utensils: spoon, fork, and knife.
- **Vending Machines**
 - BRING small BILLS (such as \$1.00 or \$5.00)
 - Let one of the supervisors know if there is a problem with the vending machine.
 - If you get an extra item, turn it in to the lunchroom supervisor.
- **Microwave use**
 - Try not to bring in items that take more than a minute or two to heat up.
 - Do not heat more than one meal at a time.
- **Clean up**
 - Clean up your own mess! Clean your table and around your table.
 - Don't put food in the sink; clean up food if it falls into the sink.
 - Recycle!!! (Milk cartons, pop cans, and other items in the blue container(s).
 - Wipe up spills.
 - See a lunchroom supervisor for big spills.
- **Recess**
 - Bring your coat to the lunchroom during cold weather.
 - Bring any equipment that you would like to use during recess to lunch.
 - Pay attention to the lunchroom supervisor at the end of recess – come in when you are called to avoid being tardy to class.
- **Food**
 - Food is not to leave the cafeteria unless you have asked a lunchroom supervisor for permission.
- **Consequences**
 - There will be consequences for not following the lunchroom rules (losing a lunch table for not picking up garbage, new seats, detentions, etc.). See Student Handbook for more information. For the safety of the cafeteria, the 5-step process may not apply to certain behaviors such as throwing food, repeatedly not cleaning up, etc.

F.E. Peacock Middle School
8th Grade
Language Arts/Reading



Mrs. Sarah Olsen
solsen@itasca.k12.il.us
630-773-0335 ext. 2206

Ms. Melissa Miller
mmiller@itasca.k12.il.us
630-773-0335 ext. 2202

Classroom Texts

The Language of Literature, McDougal Littell
Spelling Connections, Zaner-Bloser
The Outsiders, S.E. Hinton
Nothing but the Truth, Avi
Assorted fiction/non-fiction books about Vietnam, TBD.

Daily Required Materials

Pen/Pencil
Paper
Highlighter
Sticky Notes
Texts
Flash Drive

Classroom Expectations

All students are expected to follow the school rules that were listed both in the Peacock Middle School Handbook, and the 8th Grade Team rules. However, there are a few extra guidelines to remember for Language Arts class.

Be Respectful:

- Raise your hand and do not shout out answers or interrupt classmates
- Do not misuse or damage any classroom property, such as: textbooks, computers, desks, etc.
- Allow your classmates the right to their own opinions or ideas
- Group work time is for work—abstain from excessive socializing
- Follow the directions of the staff members

Be Responsible:

- Turn in your work on time—late or missing work will receive a point deduction.
- Come to class prepared with books and materials.
- Come to class on time and be prepared to work.
- Use appropriate language in class and on homework.

Be Proud:

- Help yourself—ask questions, get clarification, etc.
- Help your classmates.
- Support your classmates

Please note that this semester scope is an approximation. Given that every class is unique, areas of this scope may overlap due to the needs of the students.

First Semester Overview- Introduction of Skills

- I. **Spelling**
 - a. Spelling will be a weekly part of the Language Arts Curriculum. Every Monday, the students will be pre-tested, and then will be given the book and/or supplemental assignments, which are due every Thursday. The test will also be given on Thursdays.
- II. **Grammar**
 - a. The grammar curriculum will also be continuous throughout the semester, the main focus being on parts of speech, subject/verbs, types of verbs, conjugation and verb tenses.
 - b. There will be an initial focus on proper sentence structure and types, such as independent and dependent clauses, run-ons and fragments, types of sentences and types of phrases.
 - c. The mechanics that will be addressed first semester include but are not limited to the proper use of periods, commas, semicolons, comma/conjunctions, parentheses, quotation marks, ellipses, and dashes.
- III. **Reading and Literature**
 - a. *Short Story Unit*- Using selected readings from the Language Arts textbook, the students will learn basic and complex literary elements, as well as reading strategies for comprehension.
 - i. Literary Elements: Plot structure, character analysis, setting, point of view, theme, figurative language.
 - ii. Reading Strategies: Annotating/text marking, previewing, visualizing, reading for information, and citation.
 - b. *Poetry*- Using selected poems from the Language Arts textbook and from the public domain, the students will learn how to read and analyze poetry.
 - c. *The Outsiders*- Application and extension of Literary Elements and Reading Strategies, as well as full-length reading skills. Small group work will be emphasized with Literature Circles, as well as extensive characterization and focus on setting.
 - d. *Selected Non-Fiction*-The students will be reading and analyzing non-fiction and informative reading throughout the semester. The essential functions that they will be focusing on will be audience, purpose, tone, appeals and methods (such as ethos, pathos and logos), organization and form.
- IV. **Writing**
 - a. *6+1 Writing Traits*: Program to focus on improving students' writing through seven domains-Ideas, Voice, Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, Organization, Conventions, and Presentation.
 - b. *Argumentative/Persuasive Writing*-emphasis on Organization, Word Choice, and Sentence Fluency
 - c. *Narrative Fiction Writing*-emphasis on Ideas, Word Choice, and Voice
 - d. *Expository Writing- PARCC Extended Response Practice*-Emphasis on Sentence Fluency, Organization, Conventions, and Presentation

Second Semester Overview- Application of Skills

- I. **Spelling**
 - a. Spelling will continue be a weekly part of the Language Arts Curriculum.
- II. **Grammar**
 - a. The grammar curriculum will taper off during 2nd semester, but the students are expected to be applying all grammar and mechanics rules in their writing and classwork.
 - b. Stronger emphasis on proper sentence structure, such as varying sentence types, interrupters, series lists, compound/complex sentences, interjections, active/passive voice and sentence fluency (taught concurrently with Writing).
 - c. Stronger emphasis on self and peer editing for proper grammar and sentence usage.
- III. **Reading and Literature**
 - a. *Nothing But the Truth*- Application and extension of Literary Elements and Reading Strategies, as well as an introduction to dramatic formatting and argumentative elements. The students will engage in a week long "mock trial" where they have to defend their clients, aka a character or characters from the novel.
 - b. *Vietnam Unit*- Application and extension of Literary Elements and Reading Strategies, in-depth novel analysis, informative reading on historical texts, and both fiction and nonfiction accounts of the Vietnam Era.
 - c. *Selected Non-Fiction*-The students will continue to read and extend their analysis of non-fiction and informative reading throughout the semester.
 - d. *Poetry*- The students will finish the semester with a review and extension of poetic technique and analysis.
- IV. **Writing**
 - a. *6+1 Writing Traits*: Program to focus on improving students' writing through seven domains-Ideas, Voice, Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, Organization, Conventions, and Presentation.
 - b. *Narrative Non-Fiction*- Emphasis on all traits
 - c. *Research Project*- Students will apply research, composition, and presentation techniques in a final project about the Vietnam War using Prezi, cloud-based presentation software.

F.E. Peacock Middle School
8th Grade
Advanced Language Arts and Reading



Mrs. Sarah Olsen
solsen@itasca.k12.il.us
630-773-0335 ext. 2206

Ms. Melissa Miller
mmiller@itasca.k12.il.us
630-773-0335 ext. 2202

Classroom Texts

SpringBoard: English Language Arts, Grade 8
Spelling Connections, Zaner-Bloser
The Giver, Lois Lowry
A Midsummer Night's Dream, William Shakespeare

Daily Required Materials

Pen/Pencil
Paper
Highlighter
Sticky Notes
Text
Flash Drive

Classroom Expectations

All students are expected to follow the school rules that were listed both in the Peacock Middle School Handbook, and the 8th Grade Team rules. However, there are a few extra guidelines to remember for Language Arts class.

Be Respectful:

- Raise your hand and do not shout out answers or interrupt classmates
- Do not misuse or damage any classroom property, such as: textbooks, computers, desks, etc.
- Allow your classmates the right to their own opinions or ideas.
- Group work time is for work—abstain from excessive socializing
- Follow the directions of the staff members.

Be Responsible:

- Turn in your work on time- late or missing work will receive a point deduction.
- Come to class prepared with books and materials.
- Come to class on time and be prepared to work.
- Use appropriate language in class and on homework.

Be Proud:

- Help yourself—ask questions, get clarification, etc.
- Help your classmates.
- Support your classmates

****Please note that this semester scope is an approximation. Given that every class is unique, areas of this scope may overlap due to the needs of the students.****

First Semester Overview

Unit 1: The Challenge of Heroism

Goals:

- Create an illustrated narrative based on Campbell's Hero's Journey Archetype
- Analyze and synthesize a variety of text to develop an original definition of *hero*
- Analyze and evaluate expository texts for ideas, structural techniques, and appropriate language use
- Develop expository texts based on strategies of definition (function and negation).

Embedded Assessment 1.1: Narrative Fiction: Writing a Hero's Journey Narrative

Embedded Assessment 1.2: Expository Writing: Writing a Definition Essay

Unit 2: The Challenge of Utopia

Goals:

- Analyze a novel to identify archetype and theme
- Analyze and evaluate a variety of argumentative texts for ideas, structural techniques, and appropriate language use
- Develop informative and explanatory texts using comparison/contrast organizational structure
- Understand and apply the use of active and passive voice
- Develop effective arguments using logical reasoning, relevant evidence, and persuasive appeals (ethos, logos, pathos) for effect.

Embedded Assessment 2.1: Expository Writing: Writing an Expository Essay

Embedded Assessment 2.2: Argumentative/Persuasive Writing: Writing an Argumentative Essay

Second Semester Overview

Unit 3: The Challenge to Make a Difference

- Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions and debate
- Analyze the development of theme and central ideas in texts
- Research an issue of national or global significance
- Create an informative and persuasive multimedia presentation
- Strengthen writing through the effective use of voice and mood.

Embedded Assessment 3.1: Speaking and Listening: Presenting Voices of the Holocaust

Embedded Assessment 3.2: Speaking and Listening: Presenting a Multimedia Campaign

Unit 4: The Challenge of Comedy

- Analyze how a variety of authors create humor in print and non-print texts
- Examine and evaluate how humor is used to communicate a universal theme
- Write a well-developed analysis of humorous text, highlighting the different forms of comedic effect.
- Comprehend, analyze, and perform a scene from a Shakespearean comedy.
- To understand and apply verbals in writing.

Embedded Assessment 4.1: Expository Writing: Writing an Analysis of a Humorous Text

Embedded Assessment 4.2: Speaking and Listening: Performing Shakespearean Comedy

Algebra 1 Syllabus

Peacock Middle School

Mr. Novak

2016-2017

Curriculum:

- Review of Real Numbers
- Solving Linear Equations
- Graphs of Linear Functions
- Graphing Linear Functions
- Absolute Value Equations
- Writing Equations
- Systems of Linear Equations
- Powers and Exponents
- Polynomials and Factoring
- Radicals
- Quadratic Equations

We will be following the same curriculum map as the Lake Park High School Algebra 1 Advanced classes. Every effort will be made to provide hands-on opportunities, integrate technology, differentiate instruction, and present lessons in a variety of formats to suit all learning styles.

Textbook:

We will be using *Beginning Algebra Seventh Edition (Elayn Martin-Gay)* as well as supplemental materials to master the content in this class. Students should fill out their planner daily and the corresponding textbook should be brought home to complete homework and prepare for tests whenever necessary.

Course Needs:

Students are required to bring the following supplies to class every day:

- Textbook
- A spiral notebook
- Loose leaf paper
- Graph paper
- Pencils
- A red pen
- Calculator (TI-30X-IIS or TI-84)
- School planner

Absentee Policy:

If a student is absent, upon return, he/she should check the homework board to see what was completed while absent. If there were any worksheets, they will be in the Absent Bin. It is the student's responsibility, not the teacher's, to collect this work and see that it is handed in. It is also recommended that the student check in with the teacher to ask any questions about the missed work and make sure that there are no other missing assignments. Students have as many days as they were absent to complete any missed work for the opportunity for full credit. Missed tests and quizzes must be made up within five school days.

Homework Policy:

Homework is an integral part of the curriculum and essential to reinforcing material that was taught in class. Homework is posted on the board every day and on my teacher blog. Students should copy it into their agenda at the beginning of class.

Extra Help:

I encourage students to come in and see me when help is needed. Students may seek extra instruction before school (7:25 to 7:55 am) or after school by appointment as long as the after school session has been agreed to ahead of time. Students will need to arrange for their own transportation home. I also encourage students to write down assignments and upcoming quizzes and tests. Checking Google Classroom and my blog daily will also assist students in being successful.

My blog link is the following: mrnovakitasca.blogspot.com

Grading Policy:

Several factors make up the quarterly grade in eighth grade mathematics. In addition to daily classwork, students will have regular homework assignments, quizzes, tests, individual projects, and group projects to complete. Effort and participation are very important. Students are expected to be on time to class and to come prepared. The breakdown of the quarterly grade for each term is as follows:

Tests (40%): Tests will be announced in advance. Students will be assessed on the concepts covered during the unit. Taking notes, completing study guides, and turning in homework on time are essential to preparing for each test.

Quizzes (30%): Students will take approximately one quiz per week. Class notes may be used during each quiz. Therefore, it is important to stay organized.

Homework (20%): Homework will be assigned regularly. Each homework assignment is worth 3 points and will be graded as follows:

- 3: all the problems have been attempted to the best of the student's ability and all the work has been shown
- 2: attempts the majority of the problems and shows most of the work
- 1: partially completed

To determine what has been assigned each day from each of the eighth grade core class, go to to the following web address: www.waveside.org. Under "Your Teacher's Username," enter the following username: **letsgochargers**.

Full credit will not be awarded on any late work. The highest grade a student can earn on a late assignment is a 2 out of 3.

Students may be asked to complete one comparable problem for each problem missed on an assignment. If these comparable problems are not completed, the completion grade on the assignment made be reduced.

Participation (10%): This grade will be based on planner/binder checks and overall effort on in-class activities such as exit slips and reflections.

Test/Quiz Retake Policy:

If a student has concerns about his/her grade, he/she should discuss with the teacher the reason(s) behind the current average and the necessary steps to take. At teacher discretion, tests or quizzes may be retaken to indicate improved mastery of the subject matter. Only the higher grade will be recorded. *So, if you fail a test or quiz you can retake it for a better grade!!!* Note: It's much easier to do well on a test or quiz the first time around because in addition to preparing for a retake, you still need to keep up and do the current work in all of your other classes!

General Classroom Expectations:

1. Be on time.

2. Bring all math materials.
3. Be respectful
4. Engage in all activities.
5. Try to the best of your ability.
6. Listen.

Discipline Policy:

At Peacock Middle School, we use a school-wide 5-step discipline process. These steps are in place to work with and correct student behaviors that do not warrant immediate office intervention.

Step 1: Student Conference

Step 2: Parent Contact (phone call or e-mail)

Step 3: 30 Minute Detention

Step 4: 1 Hour Detention

Step 5: Office Referral

*Extreme misconduct may result in increased consequences earlier in this process.

Once a student gets to step 5, this student should be written up on an office referral for any behavior the rest of the quarter. The 5 step process resets every quarter.

Group Activities:

Group activities will be used to reinforce content throughout the school year. Students who cannot conduct themselves in a respectful and responsible manner during a group activity will be given written work to do instead.

Class Web Site:

Students and parents are encouraged to visit this site regularly for announcements, sample problems, content related images, helpful documents, and other important information. Bookmark (or add to Favorites) the page below the first time you go to it:

mrnovakitasca.blogspot.com

In addition to the class website, I also like to contact parents on a regular basis about student progress and classroom participation. Please fill out the information neatly on the next page so that I may contact you as easily as possible.

TeacherEase:

It is encouraged to check the online gradebook regularly. Should you have a question about a grade, I would respectfully ask that you adhere to the following protocol in the order listed.

- Speak to your child first. They know the most about their assignments and why they got a certain grade.
- Have your child speak to me for clarification if necessary.
- If there are still concerns, please send me an e-mail and I will get back to you in a timely fashion.

Although I do update grades regularly, some assignments take longer than others to grade. I very much appreciate your patience.

Please keep this syllabus for future reference and return the last page to Mr. Novak.

Contact Information:

Tom Novak

Peacock Middle School

(630) 773-0335

tnovak@itasca.k12.il.us

8th Grade Mathematics Syllabus

Peacock Middle School

Mr. Novak

2016-2017

Curriculum:

- Real Numbers and Exponents
- Expressions and Equations
- Congruence and Similarity
- Functions
- Linear Relationships
- Pythagorean Theorem
- Volume
- Patterns and Bivariate Data

Every effort will be made to provide hands-on opportunities, integrate technology, differentiate instruction, and present lessons in a variety of formats to suit all learning styles.

Textbook:

We will be using *Illinois Math Connects Course 3 (Glencoe McGraw-Hill)* as well as supplemental materials to master the content in this class. We are currently looking to adopt a new textbook. Students should fill out their planner daily, and the corresponding textbook should be brought home to complete homework and prepare for tests whenever necessary.

Course Needs:

Students are required to bring the following supplies to class every day:

- Textbook
- A spiral notebook
- Loose leaf paper
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Contact Information:

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tnovak@itasca.k12.il.us

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8th Grade Social Studies

Contact Information

Email: bbolton@itasca.k12.il.us
Telephone: (630) 773-0335 ext. 2212

Course objectives

The goal of this course is to get students to think about history, not just memorize names and dates. We will do a lot of critical thinking activities and projects this school year. The purpose of this course is to get our great students to start thinking, reading, and writing like historians.

Homework

Homework will be assigned several times a week, maybe more if we do not get to something in class. There will be a variety of different homework assignments from writing assignments, worksheets, research, document analysis etc. I expect that homework assignments to be done on time, if homework is not completed it will be difficult to keep up with the next day's lesson. Late homework will receive a deduction.

Unit Tests

After each unit of study we will have a test covering the information covered in class, course readings, class discussion etc. These test will have a variety in terms of question format. However, the largest part of each test will consist of one or two essay questions where students will need to expand on their ideas/ interpretation in relation to the content studied throughout the unit. We will review for these test in class, but studying outside the classroom will be essential for success in Social Studies.

Projects

Project based learning is one of the most fun and effective ways for students to demonstrate and apply what they have learned. There will be a variety of hands on projects/assignments that students will participate in throughout the year. This will not necessarily be for each chapter, but I will try and incorporate as many as I can throughout the curriculum. Being 21st Century learners there will be multiple chances throughout the year to use technology to enhance learning. These technologies will be used for several projects throughout the year.

Grading Scale

A+	100-99.50	C+	79.49-78.50
A	99.49-90.50	C	78.49-70.50
A-	90.49- 89.50	C-	70.49-69.50
B+	89.49-88.50	D+	69.49-68.50
B	88.49-80.50	D	68.49-60.50
B-	80.49-79.50	D-	60.49-59.50
		F	59.49 and lower

Course Overview

This is subject to change

1. The Reconstruction of the South
2. The Native American Wars
3. The Illinois Constitution
4. The Industrial Age
5. Immigrants and Urban Life
6. The Progressive Spirit of Reform
7. World War I
8. The Great Depression
9. World War II
10. Early Years of the Cold War
11. The Civil Rights Era
12. The Vietnam War Years

8th Grade Science Course Syllabus 2016-2017

Rm 114

Instructor – Sara Svoboda

Contact Information – ssvoboda@itasca.k12.il.us

Course Description:

8th grade Science is a rigorous lab-orientated course tackling the physical sciences. Students will use scientific inquiry to study the basic concepts of the scientific process, Matter and its Interactions, Motion and Forces, Energy, and Waves. There will be a final cumulative unit comprised of projects demonstrating understanding of the whole year's curriculum. Throughout the year, students will participate in physical science laboratory investigations, some of their own design, with an emphasis on data analysis. Additionally, a major course objective is to smooth the transition into high school science classes and high school expectations.

Materials:

4 Books from Pearson will be provided.

ü Three ring binder (I suggest 1.5" or 2") with dividers is best. An accordion filing system or folders is acceptable but more difficult to organize effectively.

ü Writing utensils (pencils or blue/black pen for assignments and assessments, different color pen for grading)

ü Calculator (no requirements beyond scientific. Graphing is acceptable)

ü Set of colored pencils (need at least 12 colors)

ü Lined paper

5 Simple Classroom Rules

1. BE RESPECTFUL – be considerate of yourself, your classmates, your teacher, and your classroom. The teacher, not the bell, will dismiss class. Do not talk over others.
2. BE TIMELY – come to school and class on time.
3. BE PREPARED – come to class with all necessary materials and complete assignments on time.
4. BE PROACTIVE – engage yourself in class by asking questions, writing notes, participating in activities, and taking further actions.
5. BE RESPONSIBLE – follow all school policies and be accountable for your actions. If you choose to misbehave in the lab, you will be removed from the laboratory setting immediately and given a substantial, appropriate alternative assignment. Then, suitable disciplinary action will be taken.

The classroom follows all the rules and guidelines outlined in the Peacock student handbook, including the section on academic integrity. Violations of these rules will be subject to the five step process. DUE TO SAFETY CONCERNS WITH LABS, students who violate the lab rules (or demonstrate extreme behavior) may skip steps in the process and be sent immediately to the office with greater consequences.

Lab Component:

This course is structured to give a solid introduction to inquiry based lab activities. This means that the student will synthesize many of their own procedures during the lab activities. During each of these labs, students will cultivate the following science practices:

The Seven Science Practices

1. The student can use representations and models to communicate scientific phenomena and solve scientific problems.
2. The student can use mathematics appropriately.
3. The student can engage in scientific questioning to extend thinking or to guide investigations within the context of the AP course.

4. The student can plan and implement data collection strategies appropriate to a particular scientific question.
5. The student can perform data analysis and evaluation of evidence.
6. The student can work with scientific explanations and theories.
7. The student is able to connect and relate knowledge across various scales, concepts and representations in and across domains.

Assignments:

All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period, placed into the appropriate assignment drawer, before the bell stops ringing.

Bell work assignment will be placed on the board at the start of the period. Students are expected to find your seat and begin the assignment upon entering the classroom.

Formal written assignments and lab write-ups will be typed. Students will use APA for citing sources. All work must be printed before the bell rings. An assignment will be counted as late if it is not printed and in the drawer before the bell rings.

Lab safety is a top priority. Thus, many labs will have a pre-lab assignment that is required to be completed **before** a student may perform a lab. If the pre-lab assignment is not fully completed, the student may not participate in the lab until it is completed. The pre-lab will be counted as late and there will be no extension on the lab's final due date. If a student completes the lab write-up on time (even though the pre-lab was late), the lab write-up will not be counted as late.

Late Work:

It is **the student's responsibility** to turn work in on time. All late work will be deducted 50%. Late work is only accepted until either the end of the unit or the end of the quarter, whichever comes first. The purpose is to teach responsibility and to transition the students to Lake Park High School's late policy, which is that assignments one day late are fifty percent off and receive no credit after the second day.

Absences:

While it is in the student's best interest to be in class, there will be times when they will be absent. When absent, it is the **student's responsibility** to check with the teacher for any missed assignments. There will be little time during class to properly explain the assignment, so please see me before or after class. Make sure to copy notes from a fellow student.

Students have the **same number of days** to make up missed activities, labs, and assessments that they were absent. Labs and some tests are to be made up **before or after school**. If a student is absent the day of the test, they are **required** to take the test on the day they return.

Being absent the day before a test, presentation, or project is **NOT** a reason to be excused from it. All students are expected to take their finals on the assigned day and time.

If a student is **absent from class for a school related activity** (field trip, etc), the student is **still responsible** for turning their assignments in on time as well as learning about any assignments given while they were gone.

Electronic Devices:

Devices with **WIFI capabilities** (beyond your laptop) are **NOT ALLOWED!** They will be confiscated immediately if seen in the classroom.

Curriculum:

Unit 1- Scientific Process

Unit 2- Matter and Its Interactions

Unit 3- Motion and Its Stability: Forces and Interactions

Unit 4- Energy

Unit 5- Waves and their Applications (in Technology for Information Transfer)

Unit 6- Culmination

Extra Help:

If you are having trouble with any of the material in class, please feel free to see me. I am available before or after school but please confirm with me to make sure there are no scheduling conflicts. You can also email me at ssvoboda@itasca.k12.il.us. I will reply within 24 hours during the week (don't expect a reply on Saturday J).

Grades:

My grading system is heavily based on projects and assessments. Homework is generally based on completion and thus fits under the "participation" category. That means that if you do the work and put in the effort, you'll receive full credit. However, all other assignments/assessments are graded for content.

Group Work:

Students in Biology are encouraged to form study groups and to assist each other. It's essential to the student's success to be able to function in groups. Group work can enhance a student's comprehension of the material. However, students are expected **to complete their own work** for homework and lab reports. I will inform students beforehand whether or not they can turn in one copy for the whole group. **Do NOT share files with each other.** Academic dishonesty, as described in the student handbook will not be tolerated. Students who commit Academic dishonesty will be prosecuted and penalized. If a student is unclear on what is permissible collaboration, please talk to Ms. Svoboda.

Grading Scale:

Peacock's normal scale is used.

Class Grades:

Course grading will be based on the following categories and percentages:

10% - Mini Assessments	20% - Homework, Participation
30%- Projects, Labs	40%- Unit Assessments

Semester Grades:

80% - Class Grade	20% - Final exam
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All grades will be posted on teacherease.

I look forward to having a great school year! Once again please contact me with ANY questions or concerns at ssvoboda@itasca.k12.il.us throughout the school year!

Please read, complete & return this sheet by Friday, Sept 9, 2016. Your signature indicates that you have read through the entire syllabus and will abide by the expectations given. We are all prepared to have a successful year!

A.M. TUTORIAL

7:15-7:55 a.m. in Room 206 (Mrs. Olsen's room)

Expectations

- Students must stay productive in tutorial, this includes homework completion, silent reading, organization, and computer use.
- Students may use the computers and print, but must do so responsibly, and only for school-related purposes.
- Students may go conference with another teacher if need be.
- No food or drink allowed in tutorial.

P.M. TUTORIAL

3:00-4:00 p.m. in Room 220 (Ms. Schalla's room)

Expectations

- Students must stay productive in tutorial, this includes homework completion, silent reading, organization, and computer use.
- Students may use the computers and print, but must do so responsibly, and only for school-related purposes.
- No food or drink allowed in tutorial.
- Students are expected to stay until 4:00 P.M..

WAVESIDE HOMEWORK WEBSITE

www.waveside.com/letsgochargers

The 8th grade team makes every attempt to keep Waveside up-to-date with all homework assignments, due dates, and upcoming projects.

Additionally, some homework assignments are available on Waveside through Google Docs. Copy and paste the posted link into your browser and you can print assignments at home.

Waveside can also be downloaded as an app for smartphones!

TeacherEase/School Insight Communication

The 8th grade team will be using TeacherEase/School Insight to keep home informed about missing assignments and grade concerns.

Generally, contact through TeacherEase/School Insight will be made when a student is missing 2 or more assignments, or if his/her grade is at a C- or lower.

Please make sure the email address you have submitted to the school is active and current, as these will be the addresses to which these alerts are sent.

Quick Reference Contact Information

Melissa Miller	mmiller@itasca.k12.il.us	773-0335 ext. 2202
Sarah Olsen	solsen@itasca.k12.il.us	773-0335 ext. 2206
Bryan Bolton	bbolton@itasca.k12.il.us	773-0335 ext. 2212
Tom Novak	tnovak@itasca.k12.il.us	773-0335 ext. 2108
Sara Svoboda	ssvoboda@itasca.k12.il.us	773-0335 ext. 2114
Alicia Rathje	arathje@itasca.k12.il.us	773-0335 ext. 2218
Renata Calderon	rcalderon@itasca.k12.il.us	773-0335 ext. 2158
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Heidi Weeks	hweeks@itasca.k12.il.us	773-0335 ext. 2810

