

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Syllabus | 2018-2019

Edward Harris Jr. Middle School

School Website: <http://ehms.egusd.net>

(916) 688-0080

## \*\*Challenging Opportunities Lead Toward Success\*\*

Hardworking      Responsible      Innovative  
Accepting      Respectful      Scholarly

### INSTRUCTORS & EMAIL:

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SCIENCE



**COURSE STRUCTURE:** This is a high school preparatory laboratory science course consisting of the study of physical science. Students attend class every day for two terms. Class time includes taking notes, learning new vocabulary, participating in lab assignments and completing lab write-ups, and taking end of the unit tests. The final exams will be comprehensive in nature and take place at the end of every term. An additional one to two hours per week should be spent on reviewing notes and completing homework and class assignments.

**CURRICULUM MATERIALS:** Text – Holt, Rinehart & Winston, eds. Holt Science & Technology: Physical Science. Austin: Harcourt, 2007; Supplemental Workbook; Lab equipment as needed; Science videos and library materials as required. *Please note: More than one group of students use the classroom daily. Students are responsible for their textbooks and should not leave them in the classroom.*

### UNITS OF STUDY:

1. Matter and Its Interactions
2. Motion & Stability: Forces & Interactions
3. Energy
4. Waves and Their Applications

### MATERIALS:

- a. A **COMPOSITION** notebook with NO tear out pages, NOT a spiral notebook (can be purchased at the student store, Target, Wal-Mart or any office supply store).
- b. Binder paper and writing materials (red is only used for correcting work)
- c. Ruler (with metric units), Glue Sticks, and Highlighters
- d. Agenda (provided by EHMS)

**MOVIES:** The following movies have been approved by EGUSD and may be shown sometime over the course of the year: The Sorcerer’s Apprentice, Hidden Figures, Journey to Center of Earth, Apollo 13, The Martian, Contact, and October Sky.

### ATTENDANCE POLICY/TARDY POLICY\*\*:

The school wide attendance policy will be enforced.

### MAKE-UP POLICY\*\*:

The school-wide make up policy will be followed. Failure to complete work within the school wide time period will result in a zero grade. Make-up tests/labs need to be arranged with the classroom teacher.

**Absences:** Students have one day for each day of **excused absence** to make up work. If a student misses an activity, lab, quiz or test, he/she must meet with the teacher during lunch or afterschool to make up the work. Students may copy notes from another student, but **NOT** activities, labs, or other work done by the individual. Failure to come in or make arrangements with the classroom teacher within two days of your return will result in the forfeiture of the chance to make up the work.

**Homework\*\*:** Homework is work completed beyond the regular school day. It is assigned as needed and is an essential component of the learning process. **Daily note review is a must.**

**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:** The students and the teacher are responsible to maintain a learning environment in the classroom at all times. We will do so by adhering to the principles of the Student Creed and complying with the following Science Department **R.I.C.H.** rules.

**R (Be Responsible):** Be prepared with materials and an active mind. Follow directions and lab rules.

**I (Have Integrity):** Do what is right (not what may be easy, convenient, or popular).

**C (Be Considerate):** Participate positively and allow others to learn without distraction and disruption.

**H (Be Hardworking):** Use class time productively: Make every minute count. Give your best effort.

**GRADING/CITIZENSHIP:** Students are expected to turn in all assignments, to complete all their extended learning work, and to participate in class discussions and activities. Letter grades are based on the total number of points from tests, labs, homework, in class assignments and extra credit. Class participation and citizenship will be considered in borderline cases. The following point scale is used:

93-100 %	A	78-79 %	C+	60-62 %	D-
90-92 %	A-	73-77 %	C	Below 60 %	F
88-89 %	B+	70-72 %	C-		
83-87 %	B	68-69 %	D+		
80-82 %	B-	63-67 %	D		

Citizenship grades are E (Excellent), S (Satisfactory) and U (Unsatisfactory) based on compliance with the Student Creed. \*\* Grades may be viewed through Synergy.

**Grade Weighting:** Grades will be determined according to the scale and weights shown below.

Assignments.....25%	Quizzes .....15%
Participation .....10%	Tests .....20%
Labs/Projects.....20%	Final .....10%



**Exams:** Students may correct quizzes to raise your score by one letter grade. A test will be given at the end of each unit. Students may **not retake** a unit exam, even if they do poorly.

**Laboratory Work:** To participate in labs or activities, students must turn in a signed Lab Safety Agreement and must take and pass a safety quiz with a score of 80% or better.

**Proper Heading on Assignments:** Each assignment turned in must have the proper heading. Please see the sample on the right. Papers without the proper heading will **not** be graded. Papers with no name will be recycled.

**Red Pens and Pencil:** Red pens and pencils are for correcting only. Work done in red will **not** be graded. Check with your teacher about appropriate pen colors for class work.

**Assignment Record Sheet:** Students maintain an assignment record sheet to track assignments, homework points, and grades throughout the term. It is updated every 2-3 weeks during Housekeeping. The assignment record sheet provides evidence of student's work in this course. The teacher does NOT maintain a copy of it. To monitor your student's progress, review it with your student and check Synergy.

**Late Work:** *First Semester (Aug-Dec 2018)* - Students are required to check Synergy for MISSING assignments. Missing assignments may be completed and turned in for **half credit** within *two* school days of when Housekeeping takes place. Once the two-day window has passed, **we will not accept any late work from the prior week**. Parents/Guardians: Please encourage your students to meet with their teacher weekly during tutoring times and to organize their work and turn assignments in on time.

*Second Semester (Jan-May 2019)* - **Late work will NOT be accepted.**

***The instructor has the right to make changes to these classroom policies in order to offer individualized and/or whole class support.***

**PARENT SUPPORT:** Parents can best help their child succeed in school by providing a quiet place and time for them to complete homework. Setting aside a specific time and place for students to work not only allows students to concentrate, but also maintains good study/work habits that can be used throughout life.

**\*\* Specifics can be found in the Edward Harris, Jr. Middle School Agenda\*\***

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="radio"/>	First & Last Name
	Date
	Period
	<u>Title of Assignment</u>
<input type="radio"/>	_____
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Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="radio"/>	First & Last Name
	Date
	Period
	<u>Title of Assignment</u>
<input type="radio"/>	_____
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