

COURSE SYLLABUS
6th GRADE SCIENCE
MR. NICHOLAS PETERSON
BRYANT MIDDLE SCHOOL
2017-2018

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year. I'm very excited to get the school year underway. I am very happy to be back at Bryant Middle School. This is will be my 15th year in the district and my 4th year at Bryant. I've spent the last 13 years at Howard Elementary and William Ford Elementary. The bulk of my teaching career has been spent teaching 5th grade, so I am very familiar with what skills and science knowledge your child is coming to middle school with.

My goal for this year is to create a high challenge/ low threat classroom community. What I mean by this is I want to challenge your child, but in a way that builds their self-esteem and confidence as a learner. I believe in teaching concepts in many ways using different strategies and approaches. In my experience that is how they learn best.

One thing I truly believe in is creating a classroom community. That involves all of us working together. When you, your child, his or her classmates, and I work together, they will receive the best education possible.

Your child will be issued different science books (depending on the unit of study) throughout the school year. They are responsible for maintaining their condition and bring their book to class each day. I strongly recommend using a book cover. Some students choose to use a book sock because it is easy to remove and use for the next book.

Suggested Supplies for class

- Plastic duotang folder. Make sure it has the part in the center that can hold paper.
- Composition notebook (2) (science-will use both throughout the year)
- Pencils
- Red ink pen
- Blue or black ink pen
- Filler paper (loose-leaf)
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Pencil sharpener
- White-out
- Glue sticks
- Scissors(for Home)
- Highlighter
- Ruler(for Home)
- Eraser(s)
- Book cover
- Post It Notes

Mr. Peterson's blog--<http://iblog.dearbornschools.org/petersn/>

During the week I will update my blog to help inform students and parents about what is taking place in class. If students lose an assignment or they are absent, they can log onto the blog to find out what they missed.

Grading Summary

Students grades are calculated based on two categories, formative and summative assessment. Below is a description of each.

Formative Assessment (20% of overall grade): Homework, classwork, exit slips, teacher observation

Participating in discussions and activities is imperative to helping the students make sense of the material. They are responsible for being prepared, maintaining their science notebook (details will follow), working appropriately, and participating in activities throughout the class period.

Homework/Classwork Homework assignments offer students the opportunity to think about and practice topics and concepts more in depth. They are very important and help them build the foundation they need. These are directly related to tests and quizzes. Students will have the opportunity to revise their answers as we discuss them in class.

Summative Assessment (80% of overall grade): Tests, quizzes projects.

Tests/Quizzes/Projects (Points vary)

During a unit of study, quizzes will be given to keep students accountable for what they are learning and to serve as a tool for me to determine what students are learning or struggling with. Retakes on quizzes are at the teacher's discretion

At the end of each unit/chapter an individual test is given. This provides an opportunity for students to show what they have learned throughout the entire unit. A **study guide** and/or review sheet always provided and corrected prior to a test. For most test a review session before school is available before school on the day of the test.

Projects may be assigned as individual or group work. Each project will have a coordinating rubric or point distribution sheet that explains the amount of points awarded based on the criteria.

Test Retake

If students perform poorly on tests, they will have the opportunity to retake it on the given day of my choosing. The retake cut score will vary based upon the test, and just like quizzes, they are at the teacher's discretion. However, in order to retake the test, students must have the following criteria completed...

- All assignments **MUST** be turned in prior to the original test given.
- Test with a parent/guardian signature must be signed and returned to Mr. Peterson

Without these items, a retest will not be permitted.

It is important to note that retakes are designed for students who made an effort and didn't do as well as they wanted. They are not designed for students who choose not to prepare properly.

Grading Scale

A+	99%-100%	B+	88%-89%	C+	78%-79%	D+	68%-69%
A	93%-98%	B	83%-87%	C	73%-77%	D	63%-67%
A-	90%-92%	B-	80%-82%	C-	70%-72%	D-	60%-62%
						E	59% or below

Behavior Policy

Rules and procedures and posted in my classroom and explained practiced in detail. One of our first activities are developing rules together and every student signing them, like a classroom constitution. In my classroom, any student who chooses to disrupt the learning of others will receive up to two warnings in order to correct their behavior. On the second warning, a student's planner will be signed. 3 planner signatures equal a detention. The third warning in any given class period will result in a detention.

Detentions may be assigned without warning due to the nature of the behavior exhibited.

Fighting, bullying, and any other extreme circumstances are immediate office referrals will be handled according to school/district policy.

I'm very excited to start a new school year and getting to know you and your child. One of the cool things about teaching 6th grade is watching students transition from elementary students to independant middle school throughout the year. I'm looking forward to a positive and engaging school year. I hope that we can work together and build a classroom community. If you have any questions or concerns, at any time during the year, please feel free to contact me via email.

Thank you,

Mr. Nicholas Peterson

Email: petersn@dearbornschools.org

Blog: <http://iblog.dearbornschools.org/petersn/>

Dearborn Public Schools accept a parent's assertion that he or she needs language assistance without requiring additional corroboration. For free help with understanding the content of this document, please call the Student Services office 827-3005 for translation/interpretation assistance. **تؤكد مدارس ديربورن على توفير** خدمات الترجمة بدون أي شرط للحصول على هذه الخدمة المجانية ولفهم هذه الإستشارة يرجى الإتصال بمكتب خدمات الطلاب على الرقم 827-3005. **Arabic French Les écoles de Dearborn vous offrent le service de traduction sans aucune condition. Si vous souhaitez avoir le service gratuit pour comprendre le contenu de ce document, prière d'appeler le bureau de Services aux Etudiants 827-3005. Spanish Las escuelas de Dearborn aceptan la afirmación de un padre que él o ella necesita ayuda con el idioma sin necesidad de corroboración adicional. Para obtener ayuda gratuita con la comprensión del contenido de este documento, por favor llame a la oficina de Servicios de los Estudiantes 827-3005 para recibir asistencia de traducción / interpretación. Italian Scuole Dearborn accettare l'affermazione di un genitore che lui o lei ha bisogno di assistenza lingua senza bisogno di ulteriori conferme. Per aiuto con la comprensione del contenuto di questo documento, si prega di chiamare l'ufficio Student Services 827-3005 per la traduzione / interpretazione di assistenza. Albanian Shkolla DEARBORN pranojnë pohimin e të prindërve që ai ose ajo ka nevojë për ndihmë të gjuhës pa kërkuar vërtetim shtesë. Për ndihmë lirë me kuptuar përmbajtjen e këtij dokumenti, ju lutemi telefononi zyrën e shërbimeve për studentë 827-3005 për përkthim / interpretim ndihmë. Romanian Scolile orasului Dearborn accepta orice declaratie parinteasca care atesta nevoia copilul de asistenta cu limba engleza fara nici o dovada suplimentara. Daca aveti nevoie sa intelegeti acest document da-ti telefon la oficiul serviciilor scolare la numarul 827-3005 pentru a primi asistenta cu translatia sau interpretarea lui.** ڈیئر بورن اسکولوں میں والدین کا دعویٰ ہے کہ وہ یا وہ اضافی تعاون کی۔ میں مدد کے لئے، براہ مہربانی مدد ترجمہ / تشریح کے لئے طالب علم Urdu ضرورت ہوتی ہے بغیر زبان امداد کی ضرورت ہے کو قبول کرتے ہیں۔ اس دستاویز کے مواد کو سمجھنے کے ساتھ مفت کی خدمات کے دفتر کو کال کریں 827-3005

Please cut on the dashed line and return the bottom portion of the syllabus.

Please sign below once your child has shared this document with you.

Student name (printed)

Student signature

Parent signature

Please return this page only by **Thursday, September 14, 2017.**

