

Welcome Students and Families,

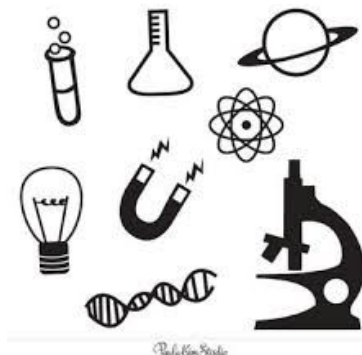
2017 ~ 2018

We are very happy to welcome Ms. Ballout to Unis teaching 6th & 8th Grade Science. Ms. Ballout is a Graduate of Wayne State University and brings a wealth of experience as a Science teacher, trainer and robotics coach.

This is a very exciting time for Science in Dearborn Public Schools. This last June as students headed home for summer break, science teachers met to begin a two year process of transitioning to the a new curriculum aligned with the new Michigan State Science Standards. You can expect science instruction in your child's classroom to look very different as we begin this exciting new time together. For students it will mean that science will be more engaging and more relevant to their experiences and everyday life. They will do more project and problem based learning by working in small groups. There will be a meeting for parents later in the fall to share more about this new approach to learning. Below you will find more details about what your child will be learning this year. Units of study will generally follow the list below but because of this transition the science department may make changes to be sure that every child is ready for success in High School.

6th Grade Curriculum

Engineering & Science
Energy
Weather & Climate
Climate Change
Body Systems
Genetics



7th Grade Curriculum

Engineering & Science
Energy
Molecules
Chemical Reactions
Plant Processes
Human & Natural Process Shape the Earth

8th Grade Curriculum

Engineering & Science
Energy
Forces & Motion
Space & Gravity
Waves & Properties
Electromagnetic Radiation

Every student will participate in an independent research project this year. There will be a science fair in February to showcase student work. Student projects that qualify will earn the chance to be entered in the Metro Detroit Area Science and Engineering Fair in March.



Grades

- All middle school science courses are year long courses. Your child will receive a single grade at the end of the year that reflects their level of understanding for the State of Michigan science grade level standards. 80% of the grade will be based on summative assessments which may include tests, labs, projects and writing compositions. 20% of the grade will be based on daily class-work which may include practice work, participation, study sheets, vocabulary work, group projects and writing assignments.
- At the end of each quarter your child will receive a report of their grade that reflects the average of the work that they have completed to that date.
- If at any time you are concerned about your child's performance please talk with your child, look at your child's class record on "Parent Connect" and then contact your child's teacher to find out what your child needs to do to meet the standard that you expect them to meet.
- You and your child can check your child's achievement and find out their current grade by accessing your child's academic records on line at the "Student Connect" and "Parent Connect" web site: <https://sisweb.resa.net/studentportal> and <https://sisweb.resa.net/Parentportal/>. If you do not have a PIN and password contact the school office at 827-1700 to find out how to access information.

Assignments

Students are responsible for completing all assignments. Students are encouraged to make up any assignments that might be missed for any reason, school activity, illness or otherwise. Students that miss class for any reason are responsible for getting any missed assignments.

Behavior Expectations

Unis Middle School uses a program called ***Positive Behavior Interventions Support*** or ***PBIS*** to help your child monitor their behavior so that they can contribute positively to a supportive learning environment for all students.

How to Contact Us:

We will be very happy to talk with you to discuss any aspect of your child's work or classroom experience. You can reach any of us by calling: 827-1700 or contact us by email at the addresses below.

David Bates	Batesd@dearbornschools.org
Diana Ballout	Balloud@dearbornschools.org
Rhonda Lancaster	Lancasr@dearbornschools.org
Steve Lott	Lotts1@dearbornschools.org
Kidada Simmons	SimmonK@dearbornschools.org