

Ms. Strome
(6th grade Science Teams A & B)
2018-2019

Units Studied

Michigan has Science Standards based on the Next Generation Science Standards. These Science Standards involve a change in the way science is learned and taught. Instead of learning facts and vocabulary from a textbook, students are thinking about science more like how scientists and engineers think about science. This change allows students to think deeper about science and not just memorize facts from worksheets and textbooks.

Students will observe and discuss phenomena, model their scientific thinking, discuss science in groups, keep interactive notebooks, and construct their own understanding with the guidance of the teacher. Vocabulary is learned in context as classes explore an idea together. The new standards include not just the core science ideas but also focus on science and engineering practices and cross-cutting concepts. I will still be preparing students to take quizzes but quizzes might look a little different. Please do not expect a list of vocabulary and concepts to study; instead students will have their interactive notebooks and online content to study. We will study engineering, cells, genetics, energy, weather, and climate in sixth grade. Please see the Next Generation Science Standards website for a more detailed explanation <https://www.nextgenscience.org/>

Grading

- Most (70 %) of students' grades will be based on performance on tests, quizzes and some projects, writing assignments, and labs.
- The remainder (30%) will be based on class work and homework as well as some projects, writing assignments, and labs.
- A standard grading scale will be used (90%-100% A-range, 80%-89% B-range, 70%-79% C-range, 60%-69% D-range, below 60% E)

Retake Policy

Retakes are allowed for quizzes and some other summative grades. Retakes will only be offered on certain dates after school. Students must complete all assignments for the unit and write out corrections to show they have mastered the material at least two days before the retake date. A parent note is also required. The higher of the two grades will be used since the retake is a different version of the quiz. Quizzes taken at the very end of the marking period usually cannot be retaken due to time limits.

Assignment Policy

- Most classwork and homework is due the next day that class meets. Projects will have a specified due date.
- Assignments should be written in the assignment planner daily but I do also keep a blog for parents to check. <http://iblog.dearbornschools.org/strome>
- Students are allowed one day per day of absence to receive full credit for work missed due to an excused absence. It is the student's responsibility to find out what they have missed while absent.
- Missing assignments can be turned in up to a week late for a late grade. Any work not turned in by the end of the marking period will be given a zero grade which will be included in their final grade. Missing assignments do lower final grades; therefore I need your help to encourage your child to make up missing work promptly. All late work is due by the day of the quiz.
- You can check your children's progress online using Parent Connect. Because this is available to you, I will not regularly be sending home progress reports with students.

Assignment Planner and the blog

All students have been given an assignment planner. Students are required to write assignments down in the planners. We strongly recommend parents check these planners nightly in order to help their child be successful. Communication with teachers can be written in the planners as well.

Information about what is going on in class will also be available on my blog. The blog is not a replacement for using planners. The blog is meant to help absent students and parents stay updated about what has been done in class, assignments, upcoming dates for summative grades, important dates, etc.

Students needing help

Most of what is done in class will be written in the interactive notebooks. Most of the material will also be available in google classroom. Google classroom is a good resource for families who wish to help students. Students who need additional help can also ask for help after school or e-mail me. Most readings, handouts, etc. will also be available in google classroom.

Behavior and Consequences

Behavior in class greatly affects learning. The PBIS system, which is used school- wide, will be used to address both positive and negative behavior in class. The Woodworth Code of Conduct that was sent home with students already will be followed as far as expectations and consequences are concerned.

Students who are disruptive or not following the code of conduct will be warned as privately as possible to begin, have a conference with the teacher, will be moved to a quiet area for a brief time out, will receive detention or parent contact, or will be referred to school support personnel as needed. Violence and bullying are never accepted and will immediately be referred to the office. Unsafe behavior during science investigations will result in being removed from the area due to safety concerns.

Teacher Contact

You can contact me by sending a note with your child, leaving a voicemail or by e-mailing. If you wish to meet with me outside of regular conferences please feel free to call or email.

I am planning a very successful year! In closing I would like to thank you for your future support and I look forward to a very productive school year.

Thank You,

Ms. Strome

6th grade Science

My email address: stromej@dearbornschools.org

Voice mail: (313)827-8089

Homework blog: <http://iblog.dearbornschools.org/strome>

Dearborn Schools website: <http://.dearbornschools.org/>

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