

CLASS EXPECTATIONS, DISCIPLINE, AND HELPFUL HINTS

Mr. Doug Forrest 2022/23 - Integrated Science

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Website: <https://www.pickphysics.com>

Google Classroom Code: 3uhesep

Required supplies

- A 3-ring binder (1 inch should be fine) for organization
- Pens/pencils/paper
- A scientific calculator other than your phone (you probably have this already for math) and other than on tests you can use Desmos on your Chromebook

1) The course is divided up into several major content topics. To start off, we'll delve into topics related to chemistry including the nature of matter, chemical and physical changes, and chemical reactions. After that we'll get into physics where we will study forces and motion, energy, waves, and electricity. We'll finish off with an overview of astronomy and the nature of the universe!

2) Labs and projects will be a key part of the class. You'll be getting a safety contract which will be important for you and a parent/guardian to read and sign.

3) I really enjoy teaching, and enjoy science! As a result, my **course goals** are:

- For you to enjoy the scientific process and problems solving that comes with it
- For you to successfully show understanding of the Physical Science Content and Process Standards and to become a scientifically literate citizen who can ask good questions and analyze situations from a scientific perspective.

Classroom Expectations, discipline, and such

Here are the Classroom Expectations as noted throughout the building, along with some science-specific additions below them.

- **I will be in assigned area, on time, prepared and ready to learn.**
- **I will communicate in a respectful manner and be mindful of how communication impacts others.**
- **I will refrain from using my cell phone and electronic devices (such as AirPods) during instructional times, unless otherwise permitted by teacher.**
- **I will respect others' personal space and property.**

The details

Electronic Devices

- Phones or other handheld devices are not allowed in class without permission from the instructor. This includes Air Pods/earphones, which need to be completely removed during class. Failure to follow this will result in (1) a warning, (2) a requirement to put the phone in a phone caddy or bag, and (3) the building discipline matrix (lunch detentions, after school detentions, phone calls, home, etc.). Electronic devices do not promote a **THINKING CLASSROOM**.
- Each student should bring their Chromebook each day to class, and have it charged prior to class. Students are expected to follow the district Internet Use Policy. While we will use the Chromebooks from time to time, many days we will not. When you're not instructed to be using your Chromebook, please make sure to have it stowed away.
- Students and parents should **not** be messaging during instructional time. If a parent needs to reach their child during class in an emergency, call the main office at 614-830-2700 and they'll forward that to my class.

Grading

- For the past few years in my physics classes, I've used something called Standards Based Grading. This has allowed students to be successful and actually learn the material for a deep understanding. Honestly, I was skeptical about this at first, but it's my students who really encouraged me to continue with this. While a student's overall grade will still be determined by their performance on labs, tests, quizzes, etc. Some standards also involve your lab performance and effort in class, things that students will be able to self-evaluate each quarter. With SBG, how those grades are arrived at is a bit different. Within the first week or so of class, I'll get out detailed information to students and parents to make sure you know exactly how it works. My students have found that SBG allows them to reassess when needed and allows them to improve their understanding over the entire school year. If you have an IEP or 504 plan that allows you extra time on assignments, that will certainly be followed. However past experience tells me students perform better if they reduce reliance on extra time. Students are allowed to reassess content standards (up to 1 per week) if they meet certain requirements, which will also be discussed in class.

Other details

- Attend and participate in class! Good, regular attendance is one of the best things you can do to make sure you have a good understanding of the class. Participation with your lab groups and during class discussions is very important for a greater overall understanding. If you miss class, you'll be expected to make up the work you miss, and are responsible for asking me about this. The school handbook says you have one day to make up work for each day you miss (days absent +1).
- Keep an organized binder. One thing last year reinforced was that students often benefited more from paper assignments than online ones. While we will use online resources, I'll ask you to number handouts I give you in class and organize them in your binder. Periodically (at least once each quarter) we'll have a binder check to make sure you have what you need for tests and quizzes.
- Attempt (and hopefully complete) all in-class assignments and homework. Assignments will be on a syllabus I hand out regularly, on my website, on our Google Classroom, and written on a whiteboard in class. There shouldn't be any reason you don't know what's going on.
- Be respectful of each other and your instructor. Please use appropriate language (both spoken and written) for a school setting – thank you! Misbehavior is anything that gets in the ways of other students' learning, and there won't be a lot of patience for that.
- There is a school handbook with policies online, and I'll have a link to it on my website. You are expected to read, understand, and follow those policies set by the PLSD.
- If you have an IEP or 504 plan that allows you extra time on assignments, that will certainly be followed. However past experience tells me students perform better if they reduce reliance on extra time.
- Be prepared to start and in your seat (with your phone away) when the bell rings, or you'll be tardy. Excessive tardiness (as per school policy) will result in detentions, phone calls home, and/or a referral to the office. Also, DO NOT line up at the door at the end of class. I'll dismiss you when class is finished and give the last class of the day time to pack things up and put chairs up.
- Don't touch other people or anything that doesn't belong to you without permission. We use a lot of lab equipment, and I have a lot of neat things in the classroom. I'll be happy to show them to you, but you need to ask out of safety. For example, don't use the faucets or gas without asking, since these are easy to break.
- Have your materials with you when you come to class every day.
- Please keep food away during class. Drinks should be water only (in bottles). A main reason for this is that I have a number of students with severe food allergies. Also, we use chemicals in the classroom and we don't want to have food contaminated with chemicals.

- To keep the hallways clear and facilitate better learning in class, only one person will be allowed to use the restroom pass at a time, for a maximum of four minutes (unless you have a documented medical condition). You may be asked to leave your phone in the classroom at the front desk when you use the restroom. Misuse or abuse of the pass will result in hall pass restriction and other discipline.
- We'll actually have some discussions in the first few weeks about **Academic Integrity**, which I think will be interesting and useful for all of us. Please be here on time (I'll make sure to release you on time!)

Resources and contact information – keep this handy!

- Students and parents can email me at Doug_forrest@plsd.us
- My website (<https://www.pickphysics.com>) will give an overview for parents of the syllabus and some of the handouts for class and also have an electronic copy of this information for reference. On this website I often post solutions to practice problems, both in video format and as a PDF.
- We'll have a Google Classroom site for class, but unfortunately parents cannot log into this. You can, however, ask your child to show this to you!
- I'll do my best to keep grades updated in Infinite Campus, but with Standards Based Grading, only the overall grade will be shown there. For more detailed information each student will have an account at SBGBook (<https://www.sbgbook.xyz/gbook/login/>). How to access that will be included in the grading information handout mentioned on the previous page.
- There will be other websites and resources we sign up for during the year such *The Physics Classroom*, but we'll do that as needed.
- The Remind application is very useful for communication between student and teachers, and parents are welcome to join as well. This is kind of like text messaging, except the actual student, parent and teacher phone numbers remain anonymous. I'll ask each student to set up an account, and parents may do so as well. Information for how to get access to Remind is on the next page.
- If you've actually read this far, write a star next to your signature on the last page in blue ink, or write the words "blue star" next to your name. Don't mention this to fellow students ☺. This will be worth a bonus point if you follow directions and turn it in *the first day* I collect the signed page (on August 18).

Safety

- Please keep bookbags, purses, etc. out of the walkways and under your chair or desk.
- Push in chairs before you leave – thank you!
- No food or drink other than bottled water since we'll be using chemicals in lab. On days we are doing lab, you'll need to make sure that water is secure and put away so there's no risk of contamination.
- ***Read the Flinn safety contract (along with a parent) and make sure you sign that you've both read it!*** If you have questions, let me know. You'll be required to wear goggles during certain labs and failure to do so means you will not earn credit for the lab. After you sign and return the Safety Contract, I'll make a copy for you to keep. You'll need to return this before we do our first lab with chemicals or goggles.

The Integrated Science Google Classroom join code is: **3uhesep**

Students and parents → Sign up for Remind! → 

Important overview for parents:

- Earlier in this packet is information about the Electronic Device Policy. Make sure you and your child have read it and understand that cell phones should be kept away during class – they really hinder students' ability to learn! If you have an emergency and need to contact your child during the school day, call the office and they'll send down a messenger or call my room. If you just want to message your child, they should wait until after class to check that.
- Information about how to contact me is also earlier in the packet, which you and your child will keep.
- You'll get a separate safety contract to sign, and it's really important to emphasize safety with the labs we'll be doing this year. Your child will be able to start doing labs with safety concerns once I get that back.

Sign up for important updates from Mr. Forrest.

Get information for Pickerington High School North right on your phone—not on handouts.

Pick a way to receive messages for Integrated Science 22-23:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/a736g2ga

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message [@a736g2ga](https://t.me/a736g2ga) to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting [@a736g2ga](https://t.me/a736g2ga) to (571) 364-6571.

* Standard text message rates apply.



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/a736g2ga on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

- Your child will get detailed information about grading practices within a week or so. Hopefully they will share this with you, but if not, I'll also post a copy on my website. My goal is for you and your child to fully understand how they will be assessed in the course. If, as a teacher, parent, or student, any of us feels that the student is having major difficulties in class, it is our responsibility to contact the other parties and try to work out any problems. Open communication is *extremely* important.
- As an instructor, I follow a 'modeling instruction' in science approach. This is one of a very few methods of teaching that has been acclaimed nationally to measurably improve student understanding. What this means is that students will perform a lot of activities (as stated above) and they'll need to be prepared to share and present their results to the class. This can be uncomfortable for students at first, but the end result is that students who present information actually understand it. This method has worked very well in the past for me and more importantly for the students.

Any questions or concerns? Please email me or write them below so I can get back to you.