7th Grade STEM 2021-2021

Welcome! We are going to explore phenomena of this amazing world we live in through scientific investigations and discussions. *Ms. Benita*

Class Expectations: All of us should come to school prepared to collaborate and be respectful. We spent time together defining what this means to our classroom community and will make them a part of what we do each day.

We expect our classmates to be respectful to each other, share ideas, to be helpful, work together and to pay attention.

We expect Ms. Benita to teach us, be kind, make learning fun, and to listen to us.

We want to be prepared, listen to others and understand them, and ask questions.

Class Routine: Routines help us know what will happen. This is the routine I am proposing for our class, your input will help create better routines that make learning fun and challenging.

1) Entry Task: From when you enter the room until the end of the first 10 mins of class, everyone will respond to the warm up question and discuss that question with your entry partner. After you have this entry task completed, a few of you will share your thoughts about the question for the class.
2) Our Learning Goals: these are posted each day, usually as questions we will answer. Included in the learning goal will be the type of cognitive task for the day, i.e. reading, writing, speaking, listening.
3) Lab Day: We will spend time preparing for investigative labs so that we are all ready for success the next day.
4) Summary Table: After we have worked with an evidence gathering moment, we will enter what we did, learned and its connection to our phenomenon into our summary table for the day.
5) Exit Task: This quick check-in helps me to plan our next steps, you will complete before leaving class.

Materials Needed: Your curiosity and respect for others, STEM Notebook with writing instruments of your choice, and your charged Chromebook.

Standards	Student Guidance
4 Advanced understanding of the Standard	You add your own ideas, perspective, and style into what you do. You are confident and are reaching for the next level of proficiency. What other science topics are connected to your understanding of this standard and how?
3 Proficiently meets the Standard	You consistently meet the target proficiency level and can explain your thinking by citing evidence. What part of the standard can you teach to others and why?

2 Approaching the Standard	You can meet the target proficiency level in familiar tasks and situations. What part of the standard do you understand and what part remains unclear?
1 Has not yet approached the Standard	You missed opportunities to demonstrate what you know and can do. Are you distracted, not participating, confused? Show me where I can help and let's work on this together!

Standard Achievement Reporting Policy:
We use Standard based grading at our school. Standards based grading focuses on growth in student learning instead of just points. Currently the way we assign students grades is reported through Skyward showing students beginning proficiency and revised as students progress in that standard. We use Google Classroom to track assignments and should be the first place you review for assignment completion.

Standard Reporting Guide
4- DIS Distinguished
-exceeds grade level standard
3-PRO Proficient
-meets grade level standard
2-APP Approaching
-needs assistance to meet grade level standard
1-BEG Beginning
-work is below grade level standard
NE- No evidence

Keys to the class:
Be an active learner! Don't sit back and watch, be part of the process!
Complete all of the practice required in the science notebook and in Google Classroom.
Ask questions! Be curious!
Be safe and have fun!
Give more, get more!

Late Work Policy: Students are responsible for turning work in on time. Please contact me if a situation occurs that prevents you from meeting the due date. If the student is absent for an assignment, they will be given time to make up the work, check Google Classroom for missed assignments and talk with me.
Academic Integrity: Unless stated, all work produced in this class must be your own. If you violate this policy, you will receive an unsatisfactory (U) on the assignment in question. Allowing anyone else to copy your work will also result in an unsatisfactory (U).

Please don't hesitate to email or call with any questions or concerns at
cbenita@cashmere.wednet.edu 509-782-2001
I am looking forward to our year of STEM here at CMS!

Fall Agenda Questions to Explore:

Unit 1: Earth's Dynamic System

September Lessons: Earthquakes, Emergency Planning

Why do Earthquakes Happen?

October Lessons: Plate Tectonics, Volcanoes

Why did Mt St Helens Explode?

November Lessons: Rock Cycle, Fossils

Why are there Fossils?