

**WELCOME TO 8TH GRADE PHYSICAL SCIENCE  
HELENA MIDDLE SCHOOL  
MRS. GROTBO – ROOM 122  
2020 – 2021**



This syllabus is intended to be a course guide only and is subject to change in order to accommodate the individual and/or class needs. Please review the syllabus with your parents/guardians. You will receive a digital copy in your online TEAMS notebook. Both parent/guardian and student should follow their respective links at the bottom of this document to sign that you have received this syllabus and understand the information within it. Thank you for your support as we look forward to a successful 8th grade year.

**GOAL:** Students will become proficient at self-advocacy, self-assessment, and the learner outcomes for all curricular areas.

Subject specific goals:

- ❖ **Science** – Students will use critical thinking and science and engineering practices to develop a better understanding of the way things work in the world surrounding us. Science can be thought of as having three major components:
  - Science is a *body of knowledge*.
  - Science is a *process*, and a way of investigating.
  - Science is a *way of knowing* or constructing understanding about the natural world.

Through the year, students will...

- demonstrate and practice lab safety
- utilize the metric system
- apply the process of scientific inquiry as students identify, investigate, and describe the characteristics of physical science

**ASSESSMENT PROCESS AND GRADING:**

Students' achievement of the standards will be assessed by formative and summative methods on a continuous basis throughout the year. **All student work will be assigned and turned in digitally.** Grades will be updated weekly. Late work/absent work will be graded each Friday. Quarter grades will be sent home at mid-quarter and quarter, as well as needed or requested. Parents and students can access grades at any time through PowerSchool. Grades will reflect a total points system. The grading scale (set by the District) is as follows:

A	92-100%	B	82-87%	C	72-77%	D	62-67%
A-	90-91%	B-	80-81%	C-	70-71%	D-	60-61%
B+	88-89%	C+	78-79%	D+	68-69%	F	0-59%

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:**

- ✓ The Weekly Agenda is updated each Monday morning prior to school. This agenda will detail activities and homework for the week. You will find a link to this agenda on my webpage, as well as in the weekly agenda you and your parent/guardian will receive via email.
- ✓ I am available and would be more than happy to assist you with any work you are finding difficult. Feel free to e-mail me or send me a chat on TEAMS. If you need in person help, please make arrangements with me during class.
- ✓ Late work/Absent work will be graded each Friday.
- ✓ Any missing work must be completed by the last day of that unit (unit test day). Any extensions needed, must be requested/approved prior to the last day of the unit (unit test day).
- ✓ If you are absent, please check the Weekly Agenda and your Assignments on TEAMS to complete the missed work. Your time for completion after an absence follows that in the school handbook (**2 days for each day absent, maximum of 4 days**); however, I am more than willing to work with you to come up with a different plan should you need it.
- ✓ You need to access Clever and Teams daily. You should expect to have something to do each day of the week, whether you are present in class or only digitally accessing class materials.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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[Weekly Agenda Link](#)

**CLASSROOM GUIDELINES:**

Handbook: <https://hms.helenaschools.org/student-handbook/>



Be Safe  
Be Responsible  
Be Respectful  
Be A Learner

Please follow the link below to let me know you have read and understand this syllabus. Shoot me an email if you have questions:

**[Parent Syllabus Acknowledgement Form](#)**  
**[Student Syllabus Acknowledgement Form](#)**