 **Welcome to 9th Grade Physical Science**

**Teacher: Coach Sharp**

***Course Description:*** We will be studying Physical Science this year using the Georgia Standards of Excellence. In science, the standards have two aspects: The Characteristics of Science, which deals with the processes of investigation, and the Content Standards, that provide information about the topics. It is important to learn **both** aspects to be successful in science. Students **will receive high school credit for this course.**

Science consists of a way of thinking and investigating, as well as a growing body of knowledge about the natural world. To become literate in science, students need to possess sufficient understanding of fundamental science content knowledge, the ability to engage in the science and engineering practices, and to use scientific and technological information correctly. Technology will be infused into the curriculum and the safety of the student should always be foremost in instruction.

****A detailed listing of the subtopics for each standard may be found at [http://www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org/)

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**High School Physical Science**

**SPS1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information from the Periodic Table to explain the relative properties of elements based on patterns of atomic structure.**

**SPS2. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to explain how atoms bond to form stable compounds.**

**SPS3. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to support the Law of Conservation of Matter.**

**SPS4. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to explain the changes in nuclear structure as a result of fission, fusion and radioactive decay.**

**SPS5. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to compare and contrast the phases of matter as they relate to atomic and molecular motion.**

**SPS6. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to explain the properties of solutions.**

**SPS7. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to explain transformations and flow of energy within a system.**

**SPS8. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to explain the relationships among force, mass, and motion.**

**SPS9. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to explain the properties of waves.**

**SPS10. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to explain the properties of and relationships between electricity and magnetism.**

***Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum:*** Reading and writing skills are important to be successful in science. Each student will be required to keep an organized science notebook and to update it daily with content and concepts covered in class. Science is a creative endeavor of the human mind. It offers a special perspective of our world in terms of understanding and interaction. It is important that students bring this notebook with them to class **every day** along with paper and a pen or pencil.

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| **Fall Semester** | **Spring Semester** |
| **Unit 1:** Chemistry (6 weeks)  **Unit 2:** States of Matter, Gas Laws, Solubility (2  weeks)  **Unit 3:** Solutions, Acids and Bases(2 Weeks)  **Unit 4:** Energy (2 Weeks)  **Unit 5:** Force and Newton’s Laws (2 Weeks)  **Unit 6:** Motion (2 Weeks) | **Unit7:** Work, Power, Simple Machines (3 Weeks)  **Unit 8:** Electricity and Magnetism (3 Weeks)  **Unit 9a:** Wave Properties (2 Week)  **Unit 9b:** EMS and Light Waves (4 Weeks)  **Unit 9c:** Sound Waves (2 Weeks) |

**Classroom Management:**

To set clear expectations, maximize instruction time, and keep your child safe, CMS has implemented the following infraction policy:

* **Infraction #1**- Parent Contact
* **Infraction #2**- Silent Lunch/Parent Contact
* **Infraction #3**- Team Forum/In-Team Suspension/Parent Contact
* **Infraction #4**- Pre-Office Referral/Parent Contact
* **Infraction #5**- Office Referral/Parent Contact

 **Evaluation:** In the science department, we use many forms of assessment to evaluate student understanding. Our grading is divided into two main categories:

* Formative Assessments- 40% of the total average (includes individual and group assignments, quizzes, daily work, homework, etc.)
* Summative Assessments- 60% of the total average (tests/exams, and major projects)

You are encouraged to track your child’s progress on the computer using Infinite Campus.

***Resources:*** Our website, <https://www.cartersvilleschools.org/CMS> , provides a wealth of information.  I have a web page that can be accessed by clicking on the school staff tab and then clicking on my name.  I will keep this updated with resources, links and important dates.  Please check this often to stay current on present and upcoming assignments. You may also login to Schoology through our site. Schoology will list current unit resources as well as “digital learning” assignments which will be activated in the event of school closings. All our physical science vocabulary can be found on-line @ [www.quizlet.com](http://www.quizlet.com/) . On this site, enter **canes8** in the search box and scroll down to find our class and the current unit of study. Resources may be added at the teacher's discretion.

***Communication:*** ***Email Address:[nsharp@cartersville.schools.org](mailto:nsharp@cartersville.schools.org)***

Please feel free to email me if you have any questions or concerns. I will get back with you as soon as possible. I firmly believe that success in science thrives as a partnership between students, teachers, and parents.

I will use Blackboard to send out messages to both students and parents as reminders of important information.  Please sign and fill in your email address below so that I can enter it into our messaging system.

If there is any other way I can be of assistance to you or your child, please do not hesitate to contact me. We look forward to a great year of learning science together!

**Late Policy:** Students are encouraged to turn in all assignments completed and on time. The 8th grade has implemented the following policy concerning late assignments:

30 point penalty if assignment is turned in within a week of the original due date

**\*\*\*Note: Assignments that are not turned in within a week of the original due date will result in a zero\*\*\***