

September 2022
Mr. Scully
Phone: 210-2203 Ext: 5604
Google #: (716) 589-0417
bscully@starpointcsd.org

Science 7
Room F-4

Welcome to Science with Mr. Scully. We will be studying a wide variety of topics this year, including everything from the protons and neutrons to the ways that volcanoes are formed. There should be something that peaks your interest throughout the year, and it is my job to find the most enjoyable way for you to learn these topics. In doing so, there are a few things that you should know:

Supplies

There are several things that you will need in order to participate in this class. Everyday, you will need:

- (2) 1.5 inch 3 ring binder with 1 pack of loose-leaf paper inside.
 - (1 or more) sharpened pencils for labs and charts.
 - (1 or more) working blue or black pens, if you like writing in pen
- On occasion, but always in your locker: colored pencils and a dry erase marker

Students' Code of Conduct

All students are expected to have read, understood, and abide by the Starpoint Central School District's Code of Conduct. In particular, pay close attention to the sections on dress code, student's rights and responsibilities, prohibited student conduct and penalties. With that said, 7th graders are very active, and I realize that. In order to use that to our advantage- we will be doing a lot of 'hands on' activities in class. These activities are meant to be fun- while still reinforcing material. During labs and other activities, the noise level in the room will naturally rise higher than when reading and taking notes. However, **noise level must be appropriate to the activity.**

Classwork

You are expected to participate in class everyday that you are here. Most classes include a review of the previous days' material, a short class discussion, and an activity to reinforce new material. You will be graded, everyday, on your class participation. Classwork will sometimes be with a partner, other times it will include your entire table. Each person will need to work their hardest for the success of the group and the learning of the class. **Classwork will count for 20% of your quarterly grade.**

Homework

I do not give a lot of homework. Therefore, when I assign it- I expect that it will get done. In the rare instance that homework isn't completed when it is due- you will get an invitation to homework club, 12th period with a teacher on the team. **Homework will count for 15% of your quarterly grade.**

Tests

Assessment will be taken in a variety of ways. All students have different styles of expressing their knowledge. Sometimes, we will take 'regular' tests, with multiple choice, fill in the blank, and matching sections. Other times, we will have presentations in front of the class with brochures or posters. We might even have an interpretive dance to represent your knowledge. **Tests will count for 45% of your quarterly grade.**

Labs

Several times a marking period, we will be doing a lab activity in class. ALL students are required to complete the labs, even if they are not in class that day. Material that is practiced in labs will be on the assessment at the end of each unit, so completion of the activity is essential. Labs will usually be done with 1 or 2 classmates. **Graded labs will count for 20% of your quarterly grade.**

So, in review, your quarterly grade includes:

Classwork-----	20%
Homework-----	15%
Tests-----	45%
Labs-----	20%

Report Card Grade = 100%

Grades will be constantly updated on my computer, and a printout of your progress can be requested anytime. Students and parents are encouraged to sign up for the portal to monitor student progress.

Mr. Scully is very patient- until actions interfere with learning in class. In order to have a smooth year, 4 major things will cause problems:

1. **Packing up before the bell rings:** You are in my room for 40 minutes, not 35, not 39 and 40 seconds.
2. **Safety in the classroom:** Being in a science classroom involves materials that are not found in other subjects. We will be dealing with fire, sharp instruments, glass, and chemicals. **EVERYONE** will be extremely careful when using these materials as some can cause serious injury. Goggles and aprons will be handed out when needed, and their use is not optional.
3. **Making a mess:** This includes gum under the desk, writing on the tables, leaving trash on the floor. You are only in the room for 40 minutes; I am in here for 6 hours. A messy room for that long makes me upset.

4. **Disrespecting others:** This is the biggest and most serious problem. Name calling, put downs, and teasing classmates will be dealt with very seriously. My class is an environment where students should feel secure and confident to participate and share their ideas. Do not take this right away from your classmates.

Other brief expectations:

1. Be on time
2. I will choose your seat nearly ALL of the time. Unless you have a problem seeing or hearing- do not ask to move your seat.
3. Raising your hand and waiting to be called on.
4. There is absolutely NO talking during a fire drill or other emergency drill
5. There will be no cell phones, iPods, mp3 players, or portable gaming devices in the classroom unless previous permission has been granted. We will use these devices from time to time, with prior notification.
6. I WILL take your picture while you're in my room. It MAY be posted on the internet or out in the showcase. You will probably hate the picture I take of you.
7. If you have any questions or concerns about grades, tests, other students, or life- COME SEE ME!

Let's have a fantastic school year. Welcome to science with Mr. Scully!