

# Astronomy/Geology

Lincoln Hill High School

Mr. Smith (2022-2023)

Welcome back to school. We are looking forward to a challenging, fun filled year. In order to have a successful year, we (teacher, student & parents) need to communicate & work together.

## Philosophy

In teaching science, my goals are to encourage students to use the scientific method to inquire about the science around them. As students develop these thinking skills they will build a foundation of science knowledge that will allow them to challenge existing ideas and think creatively about real world problems. My philosophy and method to achieve these goals is to establish a safe collaborative classroom culture, assist and direct students in their learning and do my best to stay out of their way. I see myself as the coach on the sidelines supporting my students (rather than the actor on the stage entertaining them).

**Effort** - Students in my classes are expected to come prepared to demonstrate their personal best. To be successful, students need to be RESPONSIBLE for their actions, necessary materials and the quality of their work.

**Behavior** - Students at Lincoln Hill High School are expected to behave in a respectful way while participating in all school-related activities. RESPECT - toward each other, for ourselves, and for the facilities.

While early in September we all agree these are important elements of our program/classroom, poor choices are made as the year progresses. It is my practice to handle most minor indiscretions within the classroom. The rare chronic problem or major incident may require parental and/or administrative involvement.

## Communications

**With the Student** - While your student will sometimes not seem eager to communicate academic matters with you as much as he/she would a few years ago, every day we are actively engaged in learning. I encourage you and your student to discuss our activities on a daily basis if possible. I know I will be conducting discussions with your student about his/her learning, progress, behavior, etc.

**Between Teacher & Parent** - If you have questions or concerns about my class please contact me as soon as possible. You can do this in a few different ways. One, write me a note and send it with your student. Two, call the school and leave a message (360-629-1340). Third (and most effective), write me an email (**dsmith@stanwood.wednet.edu**). I check my email at least once or twice a day depending on other activities that take up my time. Also, I would encourage all parents and students to **access their grades which are posted on-line** to monitor student

progress throughout the school year.

### **Science Notebook**

The work students do in our class this year will be split between online (using Google Classroom) and a science notebook. Students should bring their **Chromebook** and a **science notebook** which can be lined paper in a 3 ringed notebook OR a composition book OR a spiral notebook. Whatever form students choose needs to be durable and encourage students to organize their materials.

### **Grading Policy**

#### ***Grade Scale***

<b>A</b>	The student demonstrates mastery and regularly <b><i>exceeds</i></b> the standard.	<b>90-100%</b>
<b>B</b>	The student demonstrates overall mastery and regularly <b><i>meets</i></b> the standard.	<b>80-89%</b>
<b>C</b>	The student regularly <b><i>approaches</i></b> proficiency of the standard.	<b>70-79%</b>
<b>D</b>	The student approaches, but does not usually demonstrate proficiency of the standard.	<b>60-69%</b>
<b>F</b>	The student neither demonstrates nor approaches proficiency of the standard.	<b>&lt;59%</b>

#### ***Point Distribution***

<b>Assessments</b>	Opportunities for students to show what they know.	<b>50%</b>
<b>Daily Work</b>	Assignments done primarily during class time.	<b>50%</b>

After an excused absence, **it is the student's responsibility to find out what assignments, quizzes, activities, or notes were missed.** Students should FIRST call or see classmates, our Google Classroom page for the material they missed. After all of these sources have been consulted, THEN the student should see Mr. Smith for questions about how to make up these assignments. It is important that students learn to stay caught up and deal with **due dates and deadlines.**

#### ***Ingredients to Success***

##### **Be in class and ready to work**

- Arrive on time (in your seat)
- Materials in class and ready
- Minimize hallway/bathroom visits
- Leave on time (not packing up early)

##### **Work toward your personal best**

- Active listening (avoiding distractions)
- Involved in discussions (questions &/or answers)
- Involved in activities (on task individually & with group)

### Overview of Course Content

In general, the course is designed to have students use experimentation and hands-on activities to study earth science. During the first quarter (sessions 1 & 2) students will be actively learning about the process of science through questioning, modeling, problem solving and data analysis. In the second quarter (sessions 3 & 4) students will be applying our science skills, investigating factors that affect Earth's climate. Then during the second semester (sessions 5-8), students will be studying an introduction to some chemistry & physics topics through astronomy (Periodic Table of Elements, Newton's Laws, and the Electromagnetic Spectrum).

<b>Session</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>NGSS Standard</b>
1	Science as a Process	Science and Engineering Practices
2		
3	Climate & Weather	HS-ESS 1-5, 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 2-6, 3-1, 3-5, 3-6, 4-1
4	Global Climate Patterns	HS-ESS 2-4, 2-7, 3-5
5	Forces & Motion	HS-PS 2-1, 2-2, 3-1
6	Solar System	HS-ESS 1-1, 1-6
7	Atoms & Chemical Reactions	HS-PS 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-7, 1-8
8	Electromagnetic Spectrum	HS-ESS 1-1, 1-2, 1-3 HS-PS 1-1, 4-1

## **Astronomy/Geology**

Please detach this sheet. The student should keep the first two pages in the front of their science notebook (3-ring). Then please take a moment to fill out the information below to help me/us meet your student's needs better. Then sign and return this last page to acknowledge that you have read and agree with these expectations. Thank you for taking the time to read through our class expectations. I hope that it provides us all a good starting point for a successful year.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_