Science Department's

Honors Student Profile

To excel in the Westlake High School Science Department advanced level courses, students are expected to meet the following characteristics:

1. **Self-Motivation and Initiative:**
   Students should demonstrate the ability to take ownership of their learning, be initiative-takers, and actively seek opportunities to deepen their understanding.

2. **Academic Readiness:**
   Students must have successfully completed the prerequisite course(s) with a grade of 80% or higher to ensure they have a strong foundational knowledge.

3. **Pre-Requisite Skills:**
   Students should possess essential scientific skills, including the ability to:
   - Interpret graphs and data.
   - Take accurate measures.
   - Apply mathematical reasoning to scientific concepts.

4. **Experimental Design:**
   Students should be capable of designing experiments, including forming testable hypotheses, identifying variables, and outlining procedures.

5. **Research Competency:**
   Students should have the ability to conduct research projects, gather reliable data, and present findings effectively.

6. **Personal and Interpersonal Attributes:**
   Ideal candidates for advanced science courses exhibit the following qualities:

   - **Passion for Learning:** An ardent desire to explore scientific concepts and engage in discovery.
   - **Critical Thinking:** The ability to analyze problems, evaluate evidence, and make informed decisions.
   - **Critical Thinking Skills:** Creativity and resilience in overcoming challenges.
   - **Intellectual Independence:** Confidence in pursuing learning objectives and exploring current ideas.
   - **Collaboration:** Willingness to work as part of a team and contribute to group success.
   - **Organization:** Strong time management and organizational skills to balance coursework and projects.
   - **Curiosity:** A natural interest in asking questions and exploring the unknown.

Students who meet these expectations are well-positioned to thrive in the dynamic and challenging environment of the Westlake High School Science Department.