



Biology: 9th Grade

Mrs. Juanita Norris

Syllabus for 2022-2023 School Year

jnorris@pcsvirginia.org (best method of communication)

Phone: 757-565-2900 Ext 319

Course Purpose: Grade 9 High School Biology will equip students to address the following essential questions:

1. How do organisms live and grow?
 2. How are characteristics of one generation passed to the next? How can individuals of the same species and even siblings have different characteristics?
 3. What evidence shows that different species are related?
 4. How and why do organisms interact with their environment, and what are the effects of those interactions?
- These essential questions build upon what students learned in middle school science. While exploring each unit in Biology, students will engage in unique learning experiences that are carefully designed to immerse them in real world applications. By the end of the learning experience, students will be able to satisfactorily meet the performance expectations of this course.

Topics of Study: The performance expectations for High School Biology support student learning in four main areas: From Molecules to Organisms, Heredity, Biological Evolution, and Ecosystems.

Supplies Needed: Due August 23rd

- 2 Mead Five Star Flex letter-sized college ruled 3-Subject refillable Notebook, 8.5" x 11"
- 1 box of coloring pencils
- 1 pack of pencils
- 2 pack masking tape
- scissors
- 2 pocket folders
- pens: red and blue or black
- 3 pack of glue sticks
- (1) 12-inch ruler (with metric on one side and inches on the other)
- 1 packet of college lined paper

Grading: Students' success will be measured through Quizzes, Tests, Vocabulary, Hands-On-Activities (Laboratory Experiments), Writing Assignments and Science Fair Project.

- **Tests/Labs/Science Fair Project- 40%**
- **Quizzes/Classwork – 30%**
- **Homework/Research/Other Assignments- 20%**
- **Class Participation/Note Taking/Preparedness- 10%**
- **Extra Credit will be given accordingly**

Late Work:

- Students are to be prepared for class. This means students are to have all homework or any given assignment completed and turned on the date it is due.
- The standard for Rhetoric School for late assignments must be turned in **the following day** to receive a grade of 70%.

Absences: The student handbook clearly addresses absences and tardies from class. This is directly from the handbook:

All absences are disruptive to the educational process and every effort should be made to attend school regularly. Dated notes stating the specific reason for the absence and signed by a parent or guardian will be required on the first day of return to school.

If the number of absences (excused or unexcused) exceeds 15% of the number of days in the quarter, the Head of School will schedule a meeting with the student's parents to determine whether the student will receive credit for the quarter.

Including, but not limited to, illness, family emergencies, and deaths in the family will be considered excused absences. Family trips which cannot be taken at any other time, and which are approved by the Head of School (Extended Leave Form) at least one week in advance will be considered excused absences. Any other absences will be considered unexcused. When extended absences are voluntary, teachers should be notified **at least one week beforehand and all schoolwork (including tests, quizzes, papers, projects, etc.) should be completed within the time specified by the teacher.** For work not completed by the teacher's designated time, a grade of zero will be entered in the grade book. Teachers may provide students with work in advance of an absence but are not required to do so. In general, we recommend that families coordinate travel schedules with the school calendar to avoid voluntary extended absences.

Student Behavior:

Students are to adhere to the policies of the student handbook. Students should be held responsible for being to class on time, prepared to work, adhere to school's honor code, and follow the class rules. Students not following these procedures, will be reflected in their class participation grade. Students are to ensure that their planners are signed at the end of each class. Students will present their planners to be signed when needing to use the restroom.

Parents, please review the school's policy and student handbook with your child/children to make sure they understand the rules and regulations for the school. Please sign the syllabus as an acknowledgement that you have read and reviewed it with your child.

By signing this, I am verifying that I have read the syllabus, understand the contents, and agree to abide by the syllabus, or to support my student in abiding by the syllabus.



Please sign and return this form.

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Grade: _____

Student email address (please print clearly): _____

Parent/Guardian Name (print): _____

Parent/Guardian email: _____

Parent/Guardian phone: _____

Preferred method of communication (circle one): phone/ email

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____

Received by Teacher: _____ Date: _____