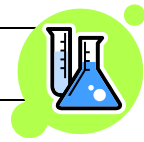


Mr. Dennis' 9th Grade Science Syllabus



Contact Information:

Room 3323 kdennis@cbsd.org (267) 893 – 2900 Ext 6429 <http://cbsd.org/kdennis>

Course Content: <https://www.cbsd.org/canvas>

Office House: Monday, Wednesday Friday 9:06 – 9:36 Resource: 6th Period – B Days

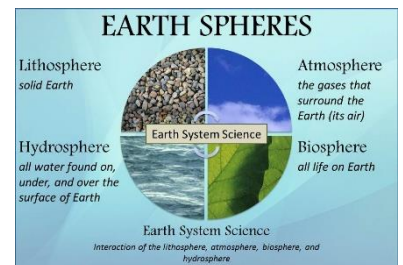
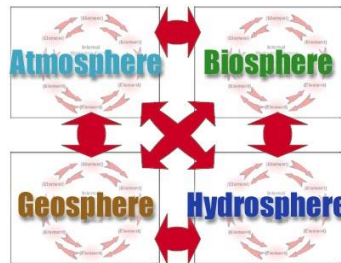
About Mr. Dennis – This is my 18th year here at Tamanend Middle School. I am a 1998 Central Bucks East graduate and graduated from Villanova University in 2002. This year I am teaching 4 sections of Academic and 1 section of Honors 9th grade science. I have two daughters; Maggie turns 10 in October and is in 4th grade and 7-year-old Emily is in 2nd Grade. Both are enrolled at Buckingham Elementary. In addition, I am entering my 13th season as the Varsity Baseball Coach at CB East during the spring. My wife of 14 years is employed as the Director of Pupil Services in the Downingtown Area School District.

Contacting Mr. Dennis Outside of conversations withing the classroom (and virtual environment) students should use their school issued email address to contact me with any questions or concerns. This is the most convenient method to contact. If in the event if

Textbooks – Access to the online textbook will be made available to students at the start of the year. Students can utilize this link: <https://launchpad.classlink.com/cbsd> to access the textbook. How to do this will be reviewed in class.

Materials – Class will operate so that students can complete all items virtually. Students will only need their laptop and headphones using Canvas, OneNote, and various web resources.

Course Description – Ninth Grade Science is an integrated course that explores Earth's four spheres and how they interact. The 4 units of study include: biosphere, geosphere, atmosphere, and hydrosphere.



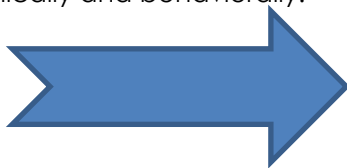
Course Policies

Attendance – Attendance for each class in the virtual environment will be taken at the start of each class through various methods including warm-up participation, an attendance survey, or downloading attendance data from Teams meetings.

Class participation – For now, classes will operate virtually using Microsoft Teams. Links to all class meetings are in Canvas for students to access.

Online Meeting Expectations

Please remember that whether we are meeting online or in person, we have high expectations for our students both academically and behaviorally.



Online Class Meeting Expectations	
	Arrive on time (when possible)
	Find a quiet, distraction free spot to learn. Pay attention to your background.
	Mute your microphone
	Wear earbuds or headset (if possible)
	Unmute your microphone when it is your turn to speak
	Be attentive and listen to your teacher and classmates
	Be prepared with materials for learning
	Follow class behavior expectations
	Respect privacy - no photo or video recordings allowed

Labs – An important part of science is collecting and analyzing data. Due to how instruction will be delivered at this time labs will be completed as live demonstrations, or recordings by Mr. Dennis. *There will be times where students CAN, BUT DO NOT HAVE TO, participate by doing labs at home.* If a lab is being demonstrated that students could do safely at home with household items, this information and a materials list will be shared with students and parents. DOING THE LAB AT HOME WILL BE COMPLETELY OPTIONAL.

Grading

Your grade in this class will be based 100% on Summative Assessments – Summative assessments are given at the end of instruction to evaluate student growth. These include tests, quizzes, performance assessments, projects, and various other methods of assessing student growth, learning and how they are meeting standards.

In Canvas and in the Campus Portal, you will also see two other categories that are for informational purposes and will not impact your overall grade in science.

Formative– Formative assessments are any formal or informal assessment tool used to evaluate students grasp of content. This may include small quizzes, in class activities, exit tickets, oral response, digitally collected data or other assignments.

Learning Tasks - These are activities that are to be completed by students to help them learn material. These could include notetaking, warm-up activities, homework, pre-lab completion and practice.

Core Assessments - The 9th Grade Science course has 3 District Core Performance Assessments and 4 District Finals:

- District Core Performance Assessments:
 - "Ocean Acidification" – given during Hydrosphere Unit
 - "Land and Sea" – given during Atmosphere Unit
 - "Peppered Moth" – given during the Biosphere Unit

- 4 District Finals:
 - The 4 grades are accumulated and reported as the final exam grade. These assessments are: Geosphere, Hydrosphere, Atmosphere and Biosphere Final exams. There is no large exam at the end of the school year.

Honors 9th Grade Science students are also required to:

- Read one self-selected non-fiction science book in small groups.
- Read multiple scientific journal articles per unit.
 - Articles will be made available to students a few times a month. Often, students will be required to complete an activity regarding an article that is sent. These will be announced in advance.
- Engage in extended research projects.

Second Chance Learning

Second chance learning will be offered to students. A separate information sheet outlining this process will be made available to students as we approach our first assessment.

Please sign below to acknowledge that you, the student, and your guardian(s) have reviewed these policies.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____