

# **Biology**

## **Disclosure Statement**

**Teacher: Mrs. Strong**

**Room: 112**

**Email Address: [mwiebe-strong@graniteschools.org](mailto:mwiebe-strong@graniteschools.org) (no junk Mail please!)**

**Web Site: [www.Khsbiology.yolasite.com](http://www.Khsbiology.yolasite.com)**

## **Course Description:**

In this class we will study a verity of subjects, including ecology, the structure and function of cells, organs and organ systems, genetics, the evolutionary process and the classification of organisms.

In addition, biology students will learn to design and perform scientific investigation based on the scientific method and to carry out various laboratory activities that will enhance the elements of the biology core curriculum. Students will also learn how to report and interpret experimental data, keeping a lab journal that will emphasize the importance of literacy in science.

## **Required Materials:**

In order for students to succeed in this course the following materials are required and students are expected to bring these items to class every day.

1. **Pencil or Pen** ( BLACK OR BLUE ink ONLY! Other colors are difficult to read and to distinguish from corrections. No credit will be given for assignments written in any other color unless specified for a particular assignment.)
2. **Colored Pencils** (At least 8 to 12 different colors.)We will be using these often.
3. **Notebook.** One college ruled note book will be provided. If used correctly this notebook will last most if not all year long. **NEVER RIP OUT PAGES OF THIS BOOK!!** This notebook is the students responsibility and lose of this note book will be extremely damaging to the students grade.

\*\* Text books will be provided in the classroom when needed. If extra study is needed, textbooks on CD can be checked out at the library.

4. **Ipod Touches.** With necessary apps loaded.

\*\*\* Each student will be required to pay a \$5.00 Lab Fee for the use of the equipment and the materials needed in the lab.

## **Fire Drill Procedures:**

If a fire or fire drill occurs during class time or during passing time just after class, students should exit quickly through the cafeteria and report to the teacher at the east access road. Roll will be taken and missing students reported to the administration. Students may not reenter the building without the administration clearance.

## Grading Criteria:

Grades are determined by individual student performance according to guidelines established for each assignment. For a student to receive full credit the assignment must be **completed, correct and turned in on time!** Additionally, the assignment must have the appropriate title and heading, first and last names, date, period and must be **neatly presented**. Quality work gets the best grade. *If it's worth doing, It's worth doing well!* Assignments and test cannot be redone. Prepare and do it right the first time.

Please look up your grade online before coming to the teacher to ask for make up work or your current grade. **The website is <http://gb.granite.k12.ut.us/gb/login.asp>**

Final grades are determined as follows.

Notebooks	30%
Labs/Classroom Activities	20%
Assignments	20%
Tests	20%
<u>Participation</u>	<u>10%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

A 100-94%

A- 93-90%

B+ 89-87%

B 86-84%

B- 83-80%

C+ 79-77%

C 76-74%

C- 73-70%

D+ 69-67 %

D 66-64%

D- 63-60%

F 59% or below

## Citizenship Grading Criteria:

Citizenship grades are meant to help encourage students to develop good, strong character attributes including; respect for self and others, honesty, and punctuality. The development of personal character and responsibility is imperative, especially in the world of science.

Citizenship grades are determined as a combination of student behavior, attendance, punctuality and adherence to the rules and policies of the classroom and the school. In addition to academic grades the following citizenship grades will be awarded according to district policy:

**4-Honor; 3-Good; 2-Satisfactory; 1-Poor; 0-Failure**

Be aware that tardiness and truancy (unexcused absences) significantly affect your citizenship grade and may affect your graduation status.

Students are permitted 1 tardy per term before their grade will be affected. After that first tardy each subsequent tardy will lower the student's citizenship one point. One unexcused absence automatically drops the citizenship grade down to a 1. Two or more unexcused absences drop the citizenship grade down to a 0. If a student leaves that classroom for any reason without the teacher's permission they will have an unexcused absence and will receive a 0 for their citizenship grade.

It is the responsibility of the STUDENT to obtain an excuse pass from the attendance office in the case of an absence and to present that pass to the teacher. If the student fails to present a pass to excuse an absence it will be assumed unexcused.

Citizenship points may be re-earned by the student as appropriate behavior is expressed and efforts are made to rectify infractions of citizenship standards as directed by the teacher or administration.

### **Behavior Expectations:**

The highest degree of performance is expected of all students at all times. RESPECT, HONESTY & DILIGENCE are important in my class.

### **“Engagement is not an option!”**

All students **WILL** participate in class activities. Refusal to do so will result in disciplinary actions such as calls home to parent/guardian, refusals to the administration and possible expulsion from class.

The following are the rules of our classroom.

1. Be in class and on task when the bell for class begins rings.
2. Be prepared. Pen/Pencil, science notebook, colored pencils, assignments.
3. Listen to and follow instruction the first time.
4. Be respectful of people and things.
5. Cheating is dishonest. Cheating includes; lying, copying, plagiarizing another's work or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own. Anyone found cheating will receive a failing grade for the particular assignment, as will the willing accomplice. It will also affect each student's citizenship grade.
6. Vulgarity, or the use of offensive language, is inappropriate. This includes swearing, racial, religious and or sexual harassment.
7. In the laboratory, follow all lab rules. Take care of using equipment and chemicals. Horsing around in the lab and destruction of school property is not tolerated and may result in expulsion for lab activities.

The teacher will adhere to the school rules laid out in the school hand book.

\*\*\*See the student hand book for Kearns High School rules, dress code etc.

### **Classroom Expectations:**

#### **Notebook:**

A notebook is to be kept for class that will include but not limited to: Self Starters, Notes, Assignments, lab notes, WILT's and other activities as needed. Keeping a well organized, neat and complete notebook is important and is a significant percentage of the student's grade.

### **Self Starters:**

Class begins when the bell rings or when the student enters the classroom. Each day the students will be expected to enter the classroom quietly and begin working on the “Self Starter” assignment. This assignment is intended to help the student prepare for the day by reviewing past material, introducing new material, or simply focusing the mind on science through thought provoking activities. Self Starters are a large part of a student’s grade. The student will lose Self Starter point by being late or disruptive in class.

### **WILT’s (What I Learned Today):**

WILT’s are done at the end of class each class period to refocus the student on what was talked about during the class that day. WILT’s must be done after every class period and in complete sentences. These are also important to the student’s grade.

### **Assignment Requirements:**

Assignments are to be completed and turned in **on time**. Quality work is expected of all students and will be evaluated based on the requirements set for each assignment. All assignments are to be properly headed to receive credit. First and last name, date and period are to be in the top right hand corner of the paper unless otherwise specified. Each paper must be properly titled with the name of the assignment on the top line of the paper on the left hand side.

### **Ipod Touches:**

Ipod Touches will only be used in class when required by the teacher. Participation points will be lost and other actions may be taken if Ipods are being used inappropriately!

### **Lab work and Safety**

Lab work is a vital part of any Biology course. It provides the student with opportunities to experience science hands on. Through laboratory exercises the student will be able to discover, analyze, and report scientific data. The labs we will do this year are designed to reinforce key concepts and skills.

The students who apply themselves in the lab will learn a great deal and enjoy their experience. Those who choose to goof off and let others do their work for them will see little progress and may lose laboratory privileges.

Safety in the laboratory is a priority. Students must learn to respect the lab and the equipment therein. Breaking lab rules can lead to injury of self or others and will not be tolerated under any circumstance. Any student who shows a lack of maturity and a lack of respect of the lab, it’s equipment or other students will be asked to leave and will receive a failing grade for that lab assignment. If equipment is broken as a result of irresponsible behavior the student may incur a fine to repair or replace the equipment. Also, the student may lose the opportunity to participate in future labs.

**Cell phones, MP3 players, beepers, CD players, radios, head phones, electronic games, perfume/lotions/cologne, Hair spray and any other items that become a problem** as decided by the teacher or school policy are **NOT** permitted in my classroom or the lab. They are disruptive t the teacher, other students, and the learning process and will be confiscated and turned in to the main office for retrieval by the

parent/guardian of the student. Please leave them at home, in your locker, or in your school bag or purse. The teacher may remind you once, but after that you will be picking up your items in the office. The teacher and administration are not responsible of lost or confiscated items or notebooks left in the classroom.

### **Late Work Policy:**

Assignments will **ONLY** be accepted the day they are due. If a student has an excused absence the assignment can be turned in when the student returns. If the assignment was given during the student's excused absence the student will have 1 week to make up the assignment. If the student has an excused absence for a test or lab he/she will have one week to make up the missed work.

### **Extra Credit:**

Extra credit is meant to **enhance learning** and not to save a student's grade! With that in mind, students may not opt to miss an assignment and then request "extra" credit to make up for it.

Extra credit is optional and available to all student who have turned in their normal, expected, usual necessary work. Extra credit will include projects, reports, and presentation to be agreed upon by the student and the teacher, **BEFORE** being done when needed or solicited by the student or parent/guardian. A maximum of 100 extra credit points can be earned in one term.

### **Hall Passes:**

Restrooms and drink stops should be made during the 5 minute passing time between classes. However, sometimes students need to be excused from class to take care of these issues. To help each student take care of these needs when they come unexpectedly, two student hall passes will be distributed to each student at the beginning of each term. Students may use these hall passes at their discretion. However, once the student has used the two hall passes no more passes will be issued until the next term. So use them wisely.

### **Extra Help:**

I will usually be in my classroom or somewhere in the building for about a half an hour after school. If you would like to come and work in my class room during that time, please just let me know you will be coming. For more specific help, please make an appointment and I will be happy to go over material with you.

### **Absences:**

#### **Excused Absences**

It is the responsibility of the student to obtain an excused pass form the attendance office and to show it to the teacher.

#### **Unexcused Absences**

Unexcused absences (sluffing or failure to present an excuse pass from the attendance office) do not require the teacher to accommodate the student. Missed work may or may not be made up as decided by the teacher. If the student is permitted to make up the work a

contract must be agreed upon and signed by both the student and the teacher and in some cases the parent or guardian.

### **Make Up Work:**

Please come after school to receive make up work. Just before, during or after class are not good times to get work from the teacher or to look up grades. Labs may not be made up.

### **Substitute Behavior/Expectations:**

While a substitute teacher is conducting class all student will adhere to class rules and habits and will be on their best behavior. Students will also give the substitute teacher respect and consideration.

Any behavior problems will be reported to the parent/guardian of the infracting students and they will also be referred to the administration for behavioral remediation.

### **In Class Videos:**

We will be watching some in class videos that correlate with class content. Lorenzo Oil, Osmosis Jones, Inner Space, The Lion King, and possibly others.

Mrs. Strong's

Biology

Disclosure Statement

**Returning this page is worth 100 points!**

By signing this paper you are certifying that both the parent and student understand the disclosure statement and are committing to comply the rules and regulation within.

--- Read and sign this disclosure statement

---Obtain the required materials for class and bring them everyday! (Science notebook, colored pencils and pen/pencil.)

--- Return the \$5.00 lab fee receipt and this page of the disclosure statement to Mrs. Strong by August 28, 2010. Please make check payable to Kearns High School and pay your fees at the main office. If you have a fee waiver, **please provide a copy of the fee waiver** with this page in place of the receipt.

--- Note: Some work and assignments may be displayed or corrected by other students.

Students Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Home Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Cell or Work number \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Students Cell Phone Number and Carrier \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Students Name (please print)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parents Name (please print)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Students Signature/Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parents Signature/Date**

