



Dear Parent or Guardian,

Warm greetings! Welcome to Rogers-Herr! Each of us want this year to be successful, so please take a few minutes with your child to review the following information and expectations. It is important we are all on the same page!

Course Overview

Content: Topics we will cover this year are science as inquiry, introduction to matter, periodic table, chemical reactions, properties of water, freshwater, water quality, oceans, aquatic biology, cell theory, cell structures and functions, microbes, infectious diseases, chemicals and health, and evolution of geological and biological time.

Resources: Each student will be issued a - Science Explorer, Prentice Hall, which is the text used in 8th grade science at Rogers-Herr.

Grading: The following will be an overview of the grading policy I will use:

Quizzes and tests	25%
Projects and Labs	20%
In class assignments	20%
Homework	15%
Warm Ups	20%

Every two weeks I will be giving a grade printout. Your student is responsible showing you their grade and placing it in their notebook. The grade report is intended to keep him/her and you up to date on their progress. All unexcused late work will be worth 50% of the assignments point total. Excused late work will be due the day the student returns to school.

Materials:

The following materials should be brought to class everyday:

- Pencil and/or pen
- Lab journal (composition book)
- Science 1 inch 3 ring binder with loose leaf paper
- Agenda book
- Sheet protectors
- USB Flash drive
- 3 folders with fasteners

Agenda Book: I will write their assignments on the board each day. Your student will need to copy the assignments from the board into his/her agenda book. If there is not any homework, the word

"none" will be written in it. If you do not see something written in the assignment book each day, please check my website www.myersrhms.info and the homework hotline http://docs.google.com/Doc?id=dc8g8zpw_Odp5dnbd6

Web Site www.myersrhms.info

All of the work done in my classroom, weekly schedule, homework, and extra activities including EOG and benchmark prep materials may be found on my web site: www.myersrhms.info. Any and all make up work needs to be downloaded from the website, completed, and turned in. I will only make a class set of all handouts and am not responsible for missed, lost, or uncompleted handouts. I strongly encourage you and your student to take full advantage of the site.

Benchmarks and EOG's: Each student will be taking 3 science benchmarks and 1 EOG. Your student must pass their EOG with a 3 or 4 to move on to the 9th grade. Your student will be more than prepared for these tests if they complete all assignments, engage themselves in class, and have a positive attitude. My students on average score 35-40% higher than the Durham average on all benchmarks and 25% higher than the state average on their EOG's. I do have expectations of my students both academically and personally and am confident with hard work your student will achieve!

Work Standards:

I expect **QUALITY** work at all times. This means no copying or cheating at any point. Writing "I do not understand" does not excuse the student from the assignment or being responsible for the material. Instead, a question about the work should be written.

Teacher Contact and Extra Help:

I will do whatever I can to help make sure my students are successful in class and in life. Each student is expected to challenge him or herself at all times, so I expect that students will come for extra help at some time this year. Help is available in my classroom - with an appointment, on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school.

Should you have any questions or concerns now or at any time during the school year, please do not hesitate to contact me at rebecca_myers@dpsnc.net If there is anything I need to know or any accommodations that need to be made in regards to your student please send me an email. I look forward to another successful year!

Sincerely,

Rebecca Myers

