

BACK TO SCHOOL!

Gaspar De Portola

Middle School
8th Grade Science
2016 - 2017

Mr. Bridges' Classroom Syllabus and Parent/Student/Teacher Contract

Communication

Hello and welcome to Mr. Bridges 8th grade Science class; you can also call me "Mr. B" if that's easier. My goal is to establish a fun and safe learning environment that will allow all students to thrive in my class. I strongly believe that open communication between teachers and parents is the key to a successful student. Please feel free to call or email me anytime during the school year. My contact information is...

MR. BRIDGES
MBRIDGES@SANDI.NET
858-496-8080 EXT. 4335

Note to the Parent(s): This syllabus will explain important information regarding your child's Science class. The following information is in place to ensure your child stays safe and organized in my classroom. All expectations will be discussed with your child; however, it is equally important that you review the information about classrooms policies and procedures with your child to ensure there is **complete understanding** of what is expected on a daily basis. Here are the topics to follow:

- ✓ Required Materials
- ✓ Classroom Website and Textbook Access
- ✓ Technology Use and Responsibilities
- ✓ Grading Scale - Citizenship and Academic
- ✓ Attendance and Make-up Work
- ✓ Classroom Expectation and Consequences

Coming to School Prepared

The staff at De Portola Middle School holds ALL students to high expectations. Students are expected to arrive to school prepared to learn by doing the following:

- Make it to school on time
- Bring a positive attitude about learning
- Bring necessary school supplies including **binder, pen, pencils, assignments, headphones, brains, etc.**

Online Textbook Website
www.deportolascience.weebly.com

Classroom Website
www.mrbridges.weebly.com

These two websites allows students and parents easy access to important documents, classroom text books (pdf), videos and articles, calendar of events, and other useful resources. The website is also a useful tool to contact me or even check you student's grades and attendance. The classroom website offers a great way to stay involved with the science curriculum and current/upcoming assignments.

Online Gradebook

De Portola Middle is taking student attendance and recording grades on one website called PowerSchool. This site can be accessed by both student and parents by logging on to:

<http://powerschool.sandi.net>

"An easy way to stay one step ahead with your child's grades, assignments, attendance, and you can view academic feedback." - Mr. Bridges

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Technology Use

It is extremely important to have internet access outside of school, either at home or the public library. My classroom is equipped with 2 mobile computer carts containing "iPad 2" and "Chromebooks" for each student to use in class. Computers and the internet will play a major role in classroom assignments, discussions, homework, projects, research, and quizzes in class and at home. Students are responsible for their actions and misuse of technology will result in the necessary consequences. A technology contract must be signed by both parent and student.

Grading Scale

Citizenship grade is a reflection of a student's contribution to class and their environment such as behavior, leadership, character, group work, etc...

Grades are calculated by using a weighted percentage scale for the following categories:

Classwork	=	30%
Unit Exam	=	20%
* Projects	=	20%
Quizzes	=	10%
** Participation	=	10%
Homework	=	<u>10%</u>
		100%

90-100% =A, 80-89% =B, 70-79% =C, 60- 69% =D, 0-59% =F

** Advanced Science students have a different grade scale to incorporate science fair project for Semester 1 only.*

*** Participation points: Student receives daily recognition for being a productive member of the class (on time, prepared, polite, Lab Behavior, equipment clean-up, group participation etc...) Students will lose points for being tardy or showing up to class unprepared (no pencil, no notebook, etc..). Unexcused absences will affect participation as well.*

Homework and Make-ups

All assignments not completed in class become homework unless teacher explains otherwise. Your child will be given homework no more than 2 times per week. Homework is due the following day unless otherwise stated. Students may be required to take their notebooks home, access the internet or textbook PDF to complete their homework. Students **MUST** be responsible to bring their science notebook back to class the next day. **NO EXCUSES!!** Absent students are responsible for all missed work. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed. You will have 1 extra day to complete missing work for each day you were absent (excused).

Classroom Expectations and Consequences

Expectations:

1. Be on time, prepared to work (notebook, pencil...)
2. Respect the classroom supplies and equipment
3. **DO NOT** Talk during instruction (Teacher Time!)
4. Follow instructions the first time
5. Raise your hands...do not shout out answers
6. **NO FOOD OR DRINK** (fruit/vegetables, water ok).
NO HATS, PHONES, HEADPHONES, HOODIES
7. Use **PENCIL ONLY** (unless OK'd by teacher)
8. Respect your neighbors, your teachers, and your environment and always do your best!
9. Original work only, group work is different from copying from another student. Use your judgement.

Consequences:

(If I have to call you out...)

- **One time** = verbal warning
- **Two times, Tardy**, = two minutes after class
Foul Language, or for trash pick-up
Disrespect
- **Three times** = Refocus outside/Think Sheet
- **Four times** = referral/parent call/visit to
Main Office

Additional Information

8th Grade Physical Science – Mr. Bridges

Hello parents! Communication and understanding of classroom expectations plays a crucial role in your students' success. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at **858-496-8080 ext. 4335**, email me at mbridges@sandi.net, or simply stop by **Room 335** before or after school.

Student Name

Last: _____ First: _____ Period # _____

Parent/Guardian Name

Last: _____ First: _____

x _____ (Student Signature) (make sure parent or guardian signs below)

x _____ (Parent/Guardian Signature) I have read the syllabus containing class policies, expectations and guidelines for Mr. Bridges' science class. **I am aware of the rules and consequences.**

Contact Preferences: Home: (_____) _____

Cell: (_____) _____

Email: _____ @ _____

Primary Language Spoken at Home: _____

Do you need a translator for parent meetings and/or home phone calls? Yes _____ No _____

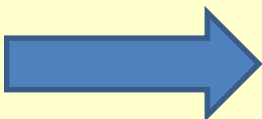
Would you be interesting in chaperoning possible field trips? Yes _____ No _____

*Do you have a computer at home? Yes _____ No _____

*Do you have the internet? Yes _____ No _____

***Access to the internet will play a major role in your child's success at De Portola Middle School.** Internet access will allow you, as a parent/guardian, to track student progress and attendance, access the textbook(s) online, and communicate with teacher(s). If there is no access at home, please allow your child to use a family friend/relative's computer or access the public library for internet use. Please monitor and speak to your child about appropriate use of the internet as I will be doing the same in the classroom.

STAY INVOLVED...ONLINE GRADEBOOK PARENT LOG-IN:



<http://powerschool.sandi.net>

CLASS MATERIALS NEEDED FOR SCIENCE CLASS

To create great work requires some extra materials. Below you will find a list of materials that will make your child's classroom experience that much better. I have classroom supplies and share with those students who do not have their own. I am not requiring you to purchase anything from the list below; however, I believe that having your own set of tools generates greater ownership in the work you create.

✓	Material List	Reason / Uses in the classroom
	<u>Colored Pencils</u>	Pack of 12 colored pencils should last your child the entire year. We create a lot of diagrams and visuals throughout the year.
	<u>Ear Buds</u>	An inexpensive pair to be used with the iPads and Chromebooks to view videos privately. For educational use in the classroom only.
	<u>Pencils</u>	Pencils are used daily, a pencil should last a student a few days up to a week. I will provide a pencil if a student is unprepared, but at the expense of the students participation grade.
	<u>Glue Stick and/or Scotch Tape</u>	Used to affix information into your child's Science Notebook such as data tables, graphs, notes, homework, etc...
	<u>Flash Drive USB Memory Stick</u>	VERY USEFUL FOR ADVANCED SCIENCE STUDENTS TO SAVE THEIR SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT DOCUMENTS. Can be used to save a digital copy of the Science Textbooks, save and transfer files between home and school. Will be helpful in other classes too.