# **Mrs. Keeler’s 8th Grade Science Disclosure**

**Email:** pakeeler@wsd.net **Phone:** 563-554-9211

## **Website:** [keelerscience.weebly.com](http://keelerscience.weebly.com)

## Course Description:

The 8th grade integrated science curriculum is what I like to call the “trail mix” of science. We will look through a variety of scientific lenses such as physical science, chemistry, and biology, and explore a number of topics. Students will be challenged to ask their own questions about everyday encounters and phenomenons and discover their own answers by engaging in hands on opportunities. An ongoing topic that will occur in each unit this year is energy. We will explore how substance store and transfer energy, how matter and energy cycle and change in various ecosystems, and how substances can provide energy to living organisms.

## Class Expectations:

1. **Be on time and prepared**. Each student will be expected to be in his or her seat and working on the warm up when the bell rings. Any student not in their desk when the bell rings will be marked tardy. Each student will be expected to have something to write with and paper every day.
2. **Listen and Follow directions the first time**. Students should be respectfully listening to whoever is giving instruction/information. This includes the teacher, announcements, and other student presentation. Repeating instructions is frustrating and takes up valuable time that could be better served doing something else more productive.
3. **Respect yourself, others and lab equipment**. No put-downs are allowed in this class. Students should respect the property of other students, the teacher, and school property. This includes language used in class and attitudes towards the teacher or other students.
4. **Follow all safety rules.** If a student fails to follow correct safety procedures in the lab, the students will be immediately removed from the lab area (no warnings). **For the safety of the students there will be no food, drink, or gum allowed in class.**

## Attendance, Tardies and Citizenship:

The attendance and tardy policy of Sand Ridge Jr. High will be followed in my class. Refer to these policies on the school’s website.

## Cellphones, iPods, and Other Electronic Devices:

There will be some appropriate times for students to use their cellphones, however, I only allow the use of cellphones for educational purposes only.

Cellphones and portable music devices can be a distraction in the classroom, and students will be asked to put these away when walking into my classroom unless instructed otherwise. Any electronic devices in sight at inappropriate times will be confiscated until the end of class. If this is a consistent problem I will turn them into the office and they may be collected at the end of the day.

## Required Materials:

1. **3 Ring binder** with paper dedicated to science only. One inch binder will be big enough, and space will be provided in class to store
2. **Pen or Pencil**

## Assignments:

Generally, all assignments will be done in class. Assignments will be graded within a week of being turned in and recorded in the online grade book and handed back to the student. If not turned in on time, the grade for the assignment will result in a zero until turned in. Once turned in, it will be graded on its quality and correctness. There is no reason each student can’t get the grade they want if they do the work and turn it in on time.

Assignments will include but not be limited to:

* Presentations
* Labs
* Binder Checks
* Class and Group Activities
* Readings and Response Writings

## makeup work:

Being absent can be overwhelming for students, so I strive to do my best to work with students to meet their needs. Typically, I will allow students the number of days they were absent before entering a zero in the gradebook. However, if students need more time due to work from other classes, arrangements can be made on case-by-case basis. Makeup work can be found in the “While You Were Gone” file in the back of the classroom, or on my website’s calendar.

## Late Work:

Late work will be accepted up until the last week of the quarter. In order to turn in late work students must either come in before or after school or during advisory to make up the assignment. Students will turn in late work with a late work slip attached to the top of their paper stating the date it was turned in, and reason why it was late.

## Cheating:

Any student(s) caught or showing intent of cheating, **enabling** cheating or guilty of plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment and will receive an automatic U for citizenship. The assignment CANNOT be made up. Parent or guardian will be notified, and the student(s) may also be subject to possible school action.

## Grades:

This is the grade scale that will be used for the class. Grades will be updated online, but you may contact me via email, and before or after school with any questions about your grade.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **A** | **93 – 100**  | **B-** | **80 – 82.9** | **D+** | **67 – 69.9** |
| **A-** | **90 – 92.9** | **C+** | **77 – 79.9**  | **D** | **63 – 66.9**  |
| **B+** | **87 – 89.9**  | **C** | **73 – 76.9** | **D-** | **60 – 62.9**  |
| **B** | **83 – 86.9** | **C-** | **70 – 72.9** | **F** | **0 – 59.9** |

## Test and Quizzes:

To encourage participation and active note taking, I do allow students to use their science binders on quizzes. At the end of the week, there will be a short quiz that goes over the material we covered that week. I use the results of these quizzes to plan the following week. There will be no retakes on these quizzes. However, I do allow one retake per test. To schedule a retake, students must meet **outside of class** with me to create a study plan. After a study plan is created a student may schedule a retake time on a different day, before or after school, or during STING time.

## Extra Credit:

Each quarter I will allow two opportunities for extra credit. Each is worth 5 points and I will add these 5 points to your lowest test scores.

1. Find any science related article in a newspaper or magazine, and write a 1-page report. The report must include a summary of the article, and how it relates to science.
2. Research any scientist and give a 1-page report about his/her contributions to the science world. The report must include at least 2 sources; only one online source may be used.

All extra credit must be 1 page typed single-spaced in 12-point times new roman font to receive credit.

# **Please print, sign and return this last page of Mrs. Keeler’s disclosure statement, or sign electronically.**

By signing below, I have read and understood this disclosure statement. I understand and acknowledge that if I have any questions or concerns I am able to contact Mrs. Keeler and/or meet with her as needed.

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Student Name (Printed)

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Student Signature

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Parent/Guardian Name (Printed)

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Parent/Guardian Signature

[\*Sign electronically by clicking here\*](https://goo.gl/forms/knDyPHNFhjl80BJm2)

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