**Mr. Groenke’s Syllabus (2020-2021 School Year)**

**Course Title:** Science

**Class Description:** My belief as a teacher is to inspire and challenge all students to be the best that they can be in whatever they do. I do not believe in “taking the easy route” and I will not alter my expectations. Laziness and lack of respect are not tolerated in my room because I believe in a productive and safe classroom. We will be exploring the world of science and there will be challenging aspects of my classes. Science is not always easy so you must be prepared to come to my class and work to be a better student. We will explore a variety of topics from both audio, visual, and hands-on applications. Do not be afraid to ask questions or come see me with concerns, but all I ask is that you bring yourself, bring a good work ethic, and we will have a successful year.

**Teacher:** Mr. Camron Groenke

1. Email: Camron.groenke@k12.sd.us Check Daily from 7:45 to 8:30 am.
2. Open classroom hours: 5B , before school 7:30-8:00 am, or after school 3:45-4:00 pm. (Not available after school from Nov-Feb due to wrestling)

**Course Materials:** a. Textbook

b. Something to organize class materials: MUST HAVE A BINDER

c. Something to write on (paper, notebook, etc.)

d. Something to write with (pencil, pen, etc.)

e. Lab notebook and other materials specific to future assignments

f. Note: If any of these are forgotten, you are eligible for a retraining session

**\*All school materials will be properly used and handled with care. Any misuse of the equipment will result in loss of the privilege for the rest of the time, appropriate consequences, and a retraining session. Any damaged or lost items must be replaced via the student who had possession!**

**Student Assessment Portfolios**

* All Viborg Hurley students taking a science class will be required to complete a student assessment portfolio as their yearly final to demonstrate their academic growth and connect to their learning goals. (Learning goals will be set by students at the start of the academic year)
* SAPs vary based on grade level and should reflect student understanding and growth through their given curriculum.
* All SAPs MUST follow the following format:
  + Cover Page
  + Table of Contents
  + Student Contract
  + Student Learning (9th and 10th) or Mastery (11th and 12th) Artifacts
  + Reflection Paper (9th and 10th) or Research Paper (11th and 12th)
* Goal of SAPs
  + Provide students a method of demonstrating their understanding of multiple concepts as well as defending their learning and growth throughout the academic year by providing and explaining multiple learning artifacts.
  + Allow students an opportunity to demonstrate real world opportunities and connections using science.
  + Develop organizational and time management skills as they should maintain their SAPs throughout the school year.
  + Will serve as spring semester finals and serve as 15% of final semester grade.

**Class Goals:**

1. Teach students practical scientific skills, which they can use to investigate, study, and explain the world around them.
2. Create learning that should be challenging yet engineered to create an exciting learning environment in which science is fun and related to each of your everyday lives.
3. Enhance critical thinking skills and reflect student interests and questions.

**Student and Teacher Behaviors**

**Classroom behavior**

Students will treat each other with respect and work together without any conflicts. If any conflicts do arise please make sure to ask for my assistance and we will develop a plan to effectively address the issue. I hope everyone can make each other feel safe and confident to fully participate in class in front of their peers.

When entering and exiting the room, remain respectful and be quiet and orderly. Take your assigned seat and immediately begin on the bellringer and copy down the objective and agenda for the day. Cell phones are NOT allowed in my class and if found they will be confiscated until the end of day and you will be subject to a retraining session. During instruction or class discussion please be respectful to others and do not interrupt or talk while others are talking. Violation will result in retraining as well.

Each class will have a behavior/respect jar. The jar starts the year full and every time a student exhibits a disrespect towards another student or myself an item is removed from the jar. If, by the end of the year, the jar is not empty the class will receive an incentive. Acts that would be considered disrespect would be wearing, complaining, name calling, hitting, cheating, arguing, interrupting, talking while others are talking, or any other act that the teacher considers disrespectful.

**Substitute Teacher Behavior Expectations**

I expect everyone to treat the substitute teacher with the dignity and respect we hold in our classroom at all times. Even though I am gone, I do not expect our classroom beliefs to change. If any problems do arise, the sub will fill out a behavior report form to leave for myself and the office. I will call the sub after the school day to investigate how the day went. Any misbehavior will be dealt with through retraining and an action plan meeting.

**Cheating**

Cheating is a form of disrespect that will not be tolerated in this classroom. Plagiarism is considered a form of cheating as well. Cheating shows disrespect to me because you believe the test, project, or assignment was not worth your time or effort. It also shows disrespect for yourself and others because you do not value your own education and you are taking advantage of other people’s hard work. Cheating will require appropriate action and consequences. Possible conferences with parents will be held to discuss the situation. Retraining WILL occur following any form of cheating. ALL TESTS WILL REQUIRE YOU TO PLACE CELL PHONES IN THE BASKET UNTIL FINISHED. TALKING DURING TESTS WILL ALSO RESULT IN AUTOMATIC FORFEIT OF YOUR TEST.

**Retraining**

Retraining results from any misbehavior, misuse of equipment, or incompetence with school or classroom procedures. Retraining MUST be completed with me at a time that is convenient to you, the student. Retraining will continue until the correct behavior is accomplished.

**\*1 warning will be given for misbehavior, retraining will occur on the student’s time.**

**Late Policy**

* I will only accept late assignments up to 3 days late for which you are docked 10% per day. Weekends count as one day, Fridays still count as one day. Following the three days, any assignment is an automatic zero. If you know you will be gone when an assignment is assigned or when it is due, it is your responsibility to make arrangements to avoid late points.

**Assignments**

1. Assignments will always be relevant to the material being studied and will be given out fairly to each individual student. Choices may be given over what option of homework to be completed and what days homework will be given out to the students.
2. Points typically vary from 10-30 points per assignment.
3. Homework MUST be completed and turned in to the hand-in box at the beginning of class on each due date. If this cannot be done, you may contact me BEFORE the due date to discuss an appropriate plan of action during any of my open hours.
4. If assignments are incomplete or not turned in, see late policy above. I will not accept incomplete assignments.
5. Reading assignments should be completed by the due date provided and students should be prepared to discuss the reading in class.
6. Major projects will be given each quarter. Status reports will be given to gauge how far along each student is to ensure the successful completion of the projects. Any concerns that arise during the course of these projects may be directed to me and appropriate plans will be made.

**Science Literacy**

* To improve science comprehension and literacy you will research and complete one podcast episode per quarter (11th and 12th) or listen and recap a science based podcast episode (9th and 10th). The paper must include the link to the podcast episode used, a summary of the article in your own words and what you found interesting. The paper must be in 12 point font, double spaced, and in Times New Roman font. The podcast episode can be done with a partner and the episode must be between 10-15 minutes in length. It is the student’s responsibility to pick a topic relating to science, but driven by their interests. The episode must be professional and carefully planned. The audio file or paper will be uploaded to the labeled Drive folder on the final day of each quarter. Papers are worth 20 points while podcast episodes are worth 30 points. Sources MUST be referenced.
* Due Dates Are As Follows:
  + Q1: Due 10/15/20 by 11:59 PM
  + Q2: 12/17/20 by 11:59 PM
  + Q3: 03/04/20 by 11:59 PM
  + Q4: 05/6/20 by 11:59 PM

**Tests**

Each test will cover the section that was covered previously and will be out of 100 points. Plan on taking a chapter test following each chapter and a semester test at the end of each semester. Tests will require studying so please put in the effort to succeed on these tests. A certain number of questions will reflect your ability to apply what you know to a scenario. Tests will be completed within the class period (NO EXCEPTIONS); if any issues should arise we will discuss appropriate actions. If a test is missed, it will be made up the following day as soon as the student and I work out an arranged time. All tests are eligible for a test retake for full credit, unless cheating took place or unless otherwise specified. Students are allowed **one retake per test** as they wish within the 5 school days following the test. Retake tests are modified and are only able to be taken with a completed retake form. You are allowed **5 retakes per semester for physical science and biology, 4 retakes in Environmental science, and 3 retakes in Anatomy, Forensics, and Chemistry/Physics.**

**Attendance**

Attendance is crucial to the success of my class. Class discussions will occur daily and is very important you are present and participate each day. Daily attendance and participation will account for a small percentage of your final grade in my class.

If you know that you will be absent, you need to make the appropriate arrangements with me BEFORE the day you will be gone. It is important to get all of the assignments and materials that you will need so that you are not left behind when you return. If you have an unplanned absence you need to contact me as soon as you return so that you can get any of the material or assignments you missed. It is not my responsibility to get you caught up, it is YOUR responsibility and I will hold you accountable.

If you are tardy to my class you must have a pass from another teacher, administrator, or staff. If you do not have a pass you will be marked tardy and that will result in a retraining session when you are available.

**Grading Procedure**

Viborg-Hurley grading scale is as follows:

A= 93% and above

B= 86-92%

C= 78-85%

D= 70-77%

F= Less than 70%

**Labs**

* This class will involve a variety of labs that may involve dangerous equipment and/or chemicals. It is important to know lab safety and know how to use all safety equipment. Misbehavior will NOT be tolerated in the lab in an order to keep everyone safe and protected. ANY misbehavior will result in a conference with me and retraining will occur. (Please see lab safety contract)
* ALL LABS WILL CONSIST OF A WRITTEN LAB REPORT.

**Science Fair (Not being done this year due to Covid)**

* All students in certain science classes will be required to demonstrate their scientific knowledge and growth by participating in the Viborg-Hurley School Science Fair in March. Students will be expected to follow all instructions laid out in a separate document. The science fair accounts for a significant portion of the spring semester grade and requires effort and responsibility. Awards will be given to the top three projects as decided via judge scores. Classes that require science fair participation are as follows: Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Anatomy. Students may NOT plagiarize existing science fair projects from past students. Plagiarism will result in a 0 for the science fair.

**Emergency Situations**

* All emergency protocols MUST be followed to ensure the safety of all students. Know proper safety procedures for fire drills, severe weather, intruders, lab accidents, etc. Follow all instructions by the teacher. Failure to do so could result in harm of fellow students and proper discipline will be sought for failure to follow procedures during an emergency situation.

**Educational Contract**

\*Your signature signifies that you have read and understand the syllabus for Mr. Groenke’s Science Course. There will be subjective and graphic images in science curriculum from time to time and if you have any concerns over this content you may contact me to discuss it. If you or your parents have any question please feel free to contact me so we can discuss them immediately. Thank you for your time and I look forward to a successful and fun year with everyone!

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Students Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents Contact Information (If I need to contact you about your child):

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\* **I, as your teacher, will teach every student with dignity and respect. I will treat each of you fairly, but not equally. I will respect each of you and will not discuss other students with you, only matters that concern you. I promise that I will do everything that I can to help you succeed in this class. Feel free to come to me with any concerns or questions and I will be happy to assist you to the best of my abilities. Our classroom will be a place to facilitate learning and a place where everyone is treated with the respect they deserve. I will develop a classroom that is orderly, predictable, and safe for everyone. I plan to uphold the Viborg-Hurley school district mission, “Empowering our students to succeed in an ever changing world.”**

**Teacher Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**