

## Miss Collins-7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

### *Class Information*

#### Introduction:

This is a year-long class designed to cover all of the California Content Standards for 7<sup>th</sup> grade science (life science). All MVMS school policies, rules, and regulations are to be adhered to throughout the year. Kate Collins reserves the right to amend policy as necessary; all updates will be posted on her teacher website.

#### Expectations:

Students are expected to meet the following expectations (posted in the classroom): be on time; be prepared (for class); complete all assignments; follow all school rules (in MVMS student agenda) and classroom procedures (see below); show respect (to classmates, school faculty and staff, property, school visitors, etc.); ask questions (when anything is unclear); achieve and succeed; use the keys to success (posted in the classroom); and meet these expectations.

#### Procedures:

**Start of Class:** students are expected enter the classroom in a quiet (CHAMPS 1-2) and respectful manner. They are to go directly to their assigned seats, remove class supplies (listed on the Welcome slide), and place backpacks UNDER tables. Students are to use the info on the Welcome slide to ready themselves for class BEFORE the bell rings.

In accordance with MVMS policy, cell phones, iPods, and all other electronic devices must be OFF and stowed away during school hours. Students are expected to be in their assigned seat (unless otherwise noted on the board) before the bell rings; students not in their seats when the bell rings will be marked tardy. Students must go to lockers for supplies BEFORE class.

**During Class:** students are expected to follow all teacher directions and remain on-task until the end of class. Unless otherwise instructed, a CHAMPS volume of zero is expected.

**Using the Restroom:** students are limited to the number of restroom passes per quarter in their agendas- no exceptions without physician's orders. A student may only use the passes in his/her, personal agenda and may not use passes for another class or quarter. Students are highly encouraged to use the restroom during passing periods, nutrition, lunch, and before/after school. Students may only uses passes during break time.

**Student Errands:** if a student needs to throw away trash, turn in late work, or perform some other task that requires s/he be out of his/her seat during class without specific permission, the student must wait until break. Students are encouraged to take care of these tasks before and after class.

**End of Class:** the teacher will signal that students are allowed to write down homework (if they haven't already), perform student errands, clean up, and pack up by verbally signaling that it is closing time. During this time a CHAMPS volume of 0-1 is expected. Students will put away all supplies, push in or put up all chairs, throw away all trash, and take all of their (and only their) belongings with them at the end of class.

## Supplies:

Students must have the following supplies daily:

- College-ruled paper
- #2 HB wood pencils (not mechanical)
- Pens: black/blue and a color
- Bag-O-Stuff (Pencil pouch or gallon zip-top bag)
- Dedicated Science Binder with Dividers (or a large section in a big binder)
- MVMS agenda
- Science text book, covered

**Highly Recommended for Optimum Success:**

- Hand-held pencil sharpener with a shaving catcher
- Colored pencils
- Small, rounded tip scissors
- Hi-lighters

## Binder:

Students are welcome to have a perforated, spiral-bound notebook to keep track of unit notes (**neatly** tear out before turning in notes; pages with shredded edges, torn and/or wrinkled pages will NOT be accepted), however students must also have a binder with dividers where handouts and other class papers are kept. **The first items in the “Appendix” section of this binder must be this packet and the “blue” CHAMPS page.** Page protectors are recommended for these documents.

**Binder Sections:**

- Lecture Notes
- Experiments/Labs & Worksheets
- Study Guides & Tests
- Graded Work
- Appendix

## Rules:

All MVMS and PVSD rules and regulations are enforced.

## Grading & Q:

Per PVSD policy class grades are weighted in the following manner:

Homework- 10%; Tests & Quizzes- 50%; Classwork- 40%.

Please note that some students will need to complete classwork at home (if not completed during class); this does **not** transfer the assignment to the homework category.

Grades are recorded and tallied in Q. It is **highly recommended that all Parents/Guardians, hereafter known as “ACKYA” (Adults in Charge of Keeping You [students] Alive, check Q bi-weekly (link from my website).**

Graded work is placed in the back of the classroom in the student supply station. Students are to retain all graded work in the “Graded Work” section of their binder until the grading period is over in case of computer error. **Work without names, using text-speak (“u,” “gr8,” etc.), with spiral notebook paper shreds, or otherwise deemed “unacceptable” will be returned “please redo” or possibly handed back immediately, if caught during paper collection (no names are posted in the back of the classroom); Students must turn in these assignments with as “late work.”**

**Late work** must have a completed “late work” slip stapled to the front of the assignment, regardless of reason. Unexcused late assignments lose 10% of potential points for each day each day past the due date (i.e. the maximum [**not guaranteed** credit] a student could earn on a 10 point assignment that is turned in one day late is nine points. This policy is designed to encourage students to turn in complete, correct, and neat work. It is the student’s responsibility to keep track of his/her outstanding/missing assignments.

### Contact:

*Kate Collins highly prefers email contact:* [kcollins@pvsd.k12.ca.us](mailto:kcollins@pvsd.k12.ca.us)

Do not hesitate to contact Kate with any questions or concerns throughout the year.

Please bookmark my website for the most up to date information (there is a link from my teacher page on the MVMS website). Both students and ACKYA are encouraged to **sign up for Remind to get text reminders for the class** (instructions are on my website) and follow me on Twitter and 'like' me on Facebook for fun stuff!

### Classroom Photographs:

I really enjoy showing off all of the wonderful things that your children do in class. I will often photograph the class during labs and activities. In addition to using these photographs for the Open House photo slideshow at MVMS's Open House in May and sharing these pictures with the yearbook staff, I also occasionally post pictures of groups of students (not individuals) on my teacher website, teacher Facebook, and teacher Twitter; never my personal accounts and always for professional purposes.

PVSD School Board President Speakman praised my efforts in the area of documenting student learning! Also this is a wonderful opportunity for you to see what your child is doing at school (and to get pictures to be used later in life to embarrass them in front of friends, family, and romantic interests) I will never, ever "tag" students or in any other way identify them as anything other than "students" (and occasionally, "future scientists" or "students of awesomeness"). I do this to protect student anonymity on the internet. **Your child's safety is of paramount concern to me!** Examples of these photographs from last year are on my website; I am looking forward to adding this year's classes!

If you do NOT want your child's photograph posted, you may indicate this on the last page of this packet.

### Mission of Awesomeness:

What I do every day is connected to what I call the Mission of Awesomeness (it sounds so much better than "work"☺).

I am dedicated to students achieving awesomeness not only in science, but in school and life in general. I love what I do and want to thank you for letting me borrow your kiddo!

### Donations:

If you would like to help my Mission of Awesomeness.....

please donate any of the following items:

- AAA Batteries
- Disinfecting Wipes
- Powder-free, Latex-free Exam Gloves
- New or Gently Used Aquarium Equipment
- Printer Paper (both white and colors)
- Paper Towels and Tissues

Also, my favorite aquarium supply stores are [Doctors Foster & Smith](#) and [Vivid Aquariums](#) (links on my website); I would be very happy to send you a wish list if you would like.

Also, there are really very *few things I would ever turn down* (examples of things that I would turn down are the plague, a farm animal, right-handed scissors [I'm a southpaw], and an angry ninja), so **if you have any office, school, or science-y things that you would like to donate**, but that are not part of my "wish list" above, **please bring it in**. If I can't use it, I will be sure to find it an excellent home with another educator. **I am eternally grateful for any and all donations!**

## Quick Review:

### Students:

- Supplies every day
- Rules in agenda (but, seriously, this is at least your 8<sup>th</sup> year in school; you know how to behave appropriately by now)
- CHAMPS on wall and in binder
- Bookmark website and sign up for Remind
- Awesomeness!!!

### ACKYA:

- Q Gradebook
- Bookmark website and sign up for Remind
- [kcollins@pvsd.k12.ca.us](mailto:kcollins@pvsd.k12.ca.us)
- Awesomeness!!!

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

RETURN THIS *COMPLETED* PAGE TO MISS COLLINS BY: \_\_\_\_\_

ACKYA:

I have read, understand, and agree to the policies and rules set forth in the preceding document.

Student Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

ACKYA Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

ACKYA Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Method of Contact (circle one): email      text message      phone

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell carrier (Sprint, Verizon, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Initial ONE, please:

\_\_\_\_\_ It is okay to use pictures with my student in them for professional purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_ Do not use pictures with my student's face.

Anything you want Kate to know about your student (use the back if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

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Student:

I have read, understand, and agree to the policies and rules set forth in the preceding document.

I agree to always do my best and follow the rules and expectations.

Student Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I want Miss Collins to know: \_\_\_\_\_

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