

WELCOME TO MS. TURPEN'S 8TH GRADE PHYSICAL SCIENCE CLASS

The Oak Mountain Middle School Mission Statement

The Oak Mountain Middle School community will model and promote the behaviors necessary for academic and social success. We will provide a safe and caring environment where students are invited to explore who they are and what they want to be. We expect nothing but the best in each child. We recognize that a student is not a vessel to be filled, but a torch to be lit. To this end we dedicate our time, talents and our resources.

Policies and Procedures

Beginning of Class: Enter the class quietly and go to your assigned seat. Check the board to your left for daily assignments, homework, and upcoming tests/deadlines. On a sheet of paper copy down and answer the bell-ringer that is written on the front board.

(Do not wait for the tardy bell to ring. Class begins when you enter the room. All of the above should be started before the tardy bell rings. Failure to read and follow the directions on the board will result in a tardy.)

Bell Ringers: Each day there will be two or more questions/objectives on the board. You are responsible for copying down and answering the question(s) during the first FIVE minutes of class. We will go over the answer to the question(s) each day so that corrections can be made. At the end of each nine-week grading period there will be a bell ringer open note test. The students must have all of the bell ringer questions answered and DATED. The test will ask them information from nine random dates and will be worth 90 points.

End of Class: The bell does not dismiss you, I do. Make sure your area is clean and that you have all of your belongings as you **WALK** out of my class.

Class-work/Homework: Many times homework will be assigned either as a tool to reinforce knowledge or as a result of unfinished class-work. All homework is due at the beginning of class as soon as you walk in the room. Make sure your name, the date and the period are at the top of each assignment.

Make-Up Work: Be proactive! YOU are responsible for finding out what you missed during your absence. Make sure you check my blog (<http://podcasts.shelbyed.k12.al.us/nturpen/>) and phone a reliable friend. The day you return, check the make-up folder for any handouts; copy the bell ringers and notes taken in class from a friend. **WORK MISSED DUE TO AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE CAN NOT BE MADE UP.** If you are absent the day of a test, go directly to my classroom upon your return to school (with a signed pass from your parent) expecting to take that test or make arrangements for when to take the test.

Collaborative/Lab Group Activities: You will be instructed on proper laboratory and group activity rules and procedures. If you choose to not follow the proper instructions or repeatedly fail to stay on task you will lose your group privileges and be given an alternate assignment. If you are horse playing, or not following instructions during lab experiments you will be removed from the lab/classroom and receive a ZERO.

Getting Help: You are able to do much more than you realize. Be a self-advocate! If you don't understand something –ASK ME– and I will help you. Every student in my class can be successful!

Agenda (Hall Passes): Your agenda is used as your pass during class. If you do not have it with you then you may not leave my room. You should make every effort to take care of personal business between classes, as a pass out of class is only given in case of an emergency.

Punctuality: It is imperative that you arrive to class on time. If you arrive late to class you must sign the tardy sheet located on the table as you enter the room.

Classroom Rules:

- Be On Time
- Come To Class Prepared
- Be Respectful

Materials Needed Daily:

- Pens (blue or black)
- GREEN pen for grading purposes
- Mechanical Pencils
- A binder
- Colored pencils (sharpened)
- 4 function calculator
- Other materials may be necessary at a later date

Discipline: You are expected to follow all class rules and procedures as well as the Shelby County Code of Conduct as explained in the student handbook. Disruptive classroom behaviors hinder learning. I care too much about you and your success in my class to allow this. If you choose to break a rule, the severity of the offense will determine the consequence. The following steps will be taken:

First- Verbal warning will be given along with a reminder of the policy/procedures violated.

Second- Phone call to parent with appropriate discipline action taken

Third- Second phone call requesting a conference with parent.

Fourth- Office referral

*This year in Physical Science we will be focusing on the study of chemistry and physics. Interactive and hands-on activities will be used to help guide students while they explore the basics of chemistry and physics. I encourage the students to relate what they are learning about to real world situations which will give them a deeper knowledge of the subject matter. It is my goal for each student to enjoy science, to learn, and to be successful. I look forward to a great year of teaching Oak Mountain students that are **“Nothing But The Best!”***

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