

The Schneider - Egan Gazette

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Classroom Rules Help Students

Know What They Are and Abide By Them!

Give Me Five!!!

- 1. Raise your hand to speak.**
- 2. Stay in your seat.**
- 3. Keep your hands, feet and objects to yourself.**
- 4. Allow the teacher to teach and the students around you to learn.**
- 5. No gum chewing, eating or drinking allowed in class.**

Follow the rules, or else!

Keeping In Touch With Mr. Schneider

Internet and email work well!!

Email address: curtisschneider@mac.com

School: cschneider@eganschool.org

School phone number: 650-917-2243

This is a direct line into my classroom, which will be set on "Do Not Disturb" during teaching hours. Feel free to call anytime to leave a voice mail that I will return promptly.

About Mr. Schneider

Mr. Schneider lives in San Jose with his wife Lisa. His son Nathan, 24, lives at home and works at UStream in San Francisco. His daughter Carly, 28, is married and lives in San Francisco. She works at a company called IODA. Her hip, online boutique called Fancy French Cologne, goes live on September 15th. Mom's, please shop at her website!

Mr. Schneider enjoys many hobbies and activities: spending time with his family, golfing, running, cooking, reading, chess, traveling, backpacking and spending time on the computer. He also has a wonderful dog named Oliver. Go Sharks, Giants and Niners!!

The photo below is from a July backpacking trip to Lake Aloha (completely full in the background) in the Desolation Wilderness.



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Information about Mr. Schneider's Science Class August, 2010

Room 24

Email: cschneider@eganschool.org or
curtisschneider@mac.com

Mr. S. checks email daily, including weekends.
Email is a great way for students and parents
to keep in touch!

Welcome: I would like to welcome your son/daughter to my science classroom here on the Egan campus. I am looking forward to working with your child as we begin a new school year. Please come by for a personal tour of our impressive classrooms and storeroom.

How to Contact Me: My classroom phone number is 650-917-2243. Call any time of day or night to leave a voice mail. I have 7th period prep this year, so that is a good time to call this number.

Expectations: It is expected that all students strive for excellence in every homework, class work, lab assignment and project they do in science. **Neatness counts!**

Course Textbook: Prentice Hall, Life Science and physical Science Version for 7th graders. **Books will be sent home during the first week of school and will be left at home the entire school year.** There will always be a set of textbooks for students to use in class so there is no need to carry it to school each day.

Topics Covered This Year: 7th graders will be learning about the systems of the human body, cells, genetics, evolution and the physics of light as it pertains to living systems. A complete syllabus for the school year will be handed out at Back-To-School night.

"Brain Snack" Books: Each student will be expected to keep a Brain Snack Book (aka, journal) in a notebook that will be part of a comprehensive assessment program. "Brain Snack Book" writing is a part of each day in science. Keeping the journal will be the responsibility of the student. It needs to be neat, organized and complete. The journal will be an important part of the final grade for the class each quarter. A 70-page notebook is sufficient.

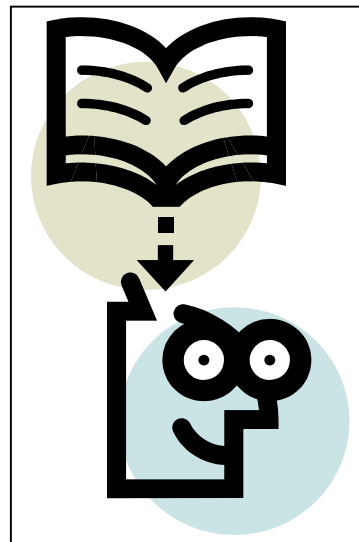
Portfolios: The student portfolio is a representative sampling of important work that will be selected by the student. The students will share this work as a "Showcase Portfolio" during any conferences with parents. Included with the work samples will be the student self-evaluations as well as other supportive samples such as homework assignments or special projects. 7th graders pass their portfolio on to 8th grade science and continue adding to it until they graduate from Egan.

Homework: Late homework will be assessed a 10% penalty per day up to 5 days late. A reasonable amount of time will be given for make up work when your child has missed school. Homework is generally given out each day Monday through Thursday.

Grading: Grades are given on a straight percentage basis according to the following breakdown: 100% - 93% = A; 92% - 90% = A-; 89% - 83% = B; 82% - 80% = B-; 79% - 73% = C; 72% - 70% = C-; 69% - 63% = D; 62% - 60% = D- and below 60% = F. **Any student who turns in all of their assignments will earn at least a C- grade regardless of the final percent achieved when grades are assigned!**

School Supplies: In addition to the normal school supplies required, students need colored pencils, a calculator, a notebook for use as a Brain Snack Book and a metric ruler. **A memory stick for saving class computer projects electronically is also A MUST!!**

Thanks for being your child's biggest supporter. I'm looking forward to a great semester. Feel free to call me or send email at **any time**. As your child's science teacher, I am here to help in any way I can.



Important Information for Students

Procedures for Mr. Schneider's Classes

Message to my students: This is a list of procedures for my classes. We could also call this "The way things are done" in room 24. If these "procedures" are adhered to, the classroom will run smoothly and efficiently. **The main goal is that each person, including the teacher, is treated with respect and consideration.**

1. **Supplies to have every day:** 3 ring binder that has a section for science and blank binder paper, something to hold an abundant supply of pens and pencils, a spiral bound notebook, calculator, colored pencils, and a ruler. Don't bug the teacher for supplies...it's not nice!
2. **Entering and leaving the room:** Enter the room silently. Please leave outdoor voices outside (maybe even your vocal cords!) The expectation is to speak in a normal tone of voice while inside the classroom (I can hear what you're saying in your head right now...ya right, Mr. S!).
3. **Work for the day:** If there is a handout you need for class, it will be on the counter by the door. Please pick it up before you sit down. If you forget, we get to throw things at you when you DO get up to get your work.
4. **Turning in homework:** Put the homework that is due into the homework box by the door. It would be great if you accomplished this before the bell rings. Mr. Schneider does not collect homework (a lazy habit) – You must turn it in yourself.
5. **Late Homework:** Late homework is accepted at a **10% penalty per day**, up to 5 days late. After that, late homework is not acceptable and the grade becomes a zero in my gradebook.
6. **Brain Snack Books:** Each student must keep a science "Brain Snack Book. It must be brought to class each day. Writing in the BSB takes place at the beginning of each period.
7. **Getting the class quiet:** A teacher's worst nightmare! I will try various things ranging from screaming and yelling to jumping up and down on the table...well, ok, not really. Please be quiet when I ask you to, otherwise I will resort to some infantile procedures like ringing bells, blowing whistles or making the lights blink on and off...you know, the standard stuff.
8. **Returning graded papers:** Another lazy habit of mine is not handing out papers after they have been graded. Look for them as you enter the room.
9. **No Name Papers:** I HATE no-name papers! They drive me crazy! You've done the work but you don't receive credit. Look for "No Name Papers" in the Black Hole Basket on the counter in my room. Please do not assume I am a mind reader and entered a grade for you...it's still a zero in my grading system. Resubmit the paper to have your score entered into the computer.
10. **Classroom supplies:** There are several drawers in the room that contain supplies for students including paper, colored pencils, glue, scissors, etc. Please return all items that you borrow.
11. **Your lab group:** consists of the persons that sit at your table. Do NOT switch teams! It will make me go wacko!
12. **Equipment Managers:** One person from each table will be appointed as equipment manager. Equipment managers get the equipment and put it away neatly when the lab is over for the day. Equipment managers earn 10 points of extra credit.
13. **Clean up:** I was raised in a big family and we all had to pitch in and clean up! WE are a big family here too...guess what? You get to help clean up HERE ALSO! Remember, your mother doesn't live here either!
14. **Breakage:** report it to Mr. S. It's no big deal as long as you weren't horsing around.
15. **Bathroom Breaks:** Be really desperate before asking to use the restroom, REALLY desperate! I don't want you to miss one exciting moment of my class, understand?
16. **Check your grade!** It's your responsibility to know what your grade is at all times. Make sure to log into Powerschool and check your grades often.
17. **Missed work due to absence:** If you miss school (shame on you!), you will have a day or two to make up the work you have missed. Make up work you have missed promptly.
18. **Grooming:** Personal grooming, while important, is not allowed in class. That includes but is not limited to putting on makeup, deodorant, hair spray, gel, combing your hair or trimming your beard or moustache. HA!
19. **Recycle, recycle, recycle!!!!!!** Don't throw anything away that you can recycle! Use the recycle bins provided in the classroom to recycle paper, cans and bottles.
20. **Dismissal from class:** This is the big one! The bell does not dismiss you, the teacher does. Now, repeat after me: "The bell does not dismiss me, Mr. Schneider does!" Very good children!
21. **Follow all posted rules**, especially the "Gimme Five" rules!

Let's have a great school year!!!! Go Sharks!!

Safety Contract for Safety-Conscious Vikings

1. Students will not behave in a way that is disruptive or dangerous. Students will not interfere with the teacher's right to teach and another student's right to learn.
2. Students will not play with, or misuse laboratory equipment.
3. Students will not carry out unassigned lab experiments.
4. Students will follow all written and oral instructions given by the teacher.
5. Students will not eat, drink or taste anything in the laboratory unless directed to by the teacher.
6. Students will protect eyes, face and hands. They will, when appropriate, wear safety goggles, gloves or other protective gear.
7. Students will wash their hands after using or handling chemicals and biological materials.
8. Students will report any injury or accident to the teacher immediately.

Students and parents please understand that failure to comply with these safety guidelines may result in a student being removed from class. Please sign the final page of this newsletter showing that you read and understand these guidelines.

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Science Wish List – Each science teacher will offer up to 5 points of extra credit for up to any 3 items on this list. Students may also receive extra credit for helping to organize these materials after school in the science storeroom instead of bringing in donated items. Students are encouraged to bring in more than 3 items.

Latex gloves
100, 200, 400 and one liter pyrex glass bakery
Hand sanitizer
Electrical Tape - --we need lots for building pinhole cameras
Waterproof clay
Butane lighters with the long tube at the end
Batteries, all voltages except 9V

Alcohol thermometers that read in degrees Celsius

Pinhole Camera Photo supplies

Can be purchased at:

Keeble and Shuchat Photography
290 N California Ave
Palo Alto, CA 94301
(650) 327-8996

- Safe light
- Photo paper – Kodabrome II RC (F-3)
- We have enough chemicals for processing left over from last year

Culture tubes (25 – 50 ml sizes only with fitting tops)

Balloons – various sizes

Copy paper –different colors would be nice

Photo paper for HP inkjet printers (50 sheets)

Stopwatches

Sharpies – regular tip

Light bulbs - various wattage

UVA / UVB lamps (these are a bit expensive and can be purchased at Petco or other pet stores)

Foil

Blue Painters tape

Van De Graff Generator

Tesla Coil

Interesting science books

Fun educational games or toys that have a science or logic theme for a teacher's desk

Aquarium supplies: Aspen shavings, reptile bark, bags of reptile sand, air pumps, plastic plants, lights, etc, ESPECIALLY THOSE EXPENSIVE LIGHT BULBS FOR AQUARIUM TANKS; we do not need any more aquarium tanks.

We also encourage cash donations to the science department. We use the money for miscellaneous purchases such as food for our fish and animals and lab supplies. You can send a check for any amount made out the Egan Science Department. Let us know and we can issue you a receipt for your tax records.

This page is to be signed by both parent and student and returned to me by Friday, August 27, 2010

Parent and Student Signature Page Return to Mr. Schneider

Student Name _____ Period _____

Student Section:

_____ I have read and understand the procedures for students.

_____ I have read and understand the lab safety procedures.

_____ I have read the science wish list and understand the extra credit rules.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Section:

_____ I have read the newsletter

_____ I have read and understand the lab safety procedures

Parents are invited to share their interest, expertise and or experience in science with our students. Guest speakers and volunteers are most welcome. If you have something you would like to share, or you would like to make a comment regarding your son or daughter, use the space below:

Parent Signature: _____ Print your name please: _____

Email address (PRINT CLEARLY):

If you want communication sent to more than one parent's email, please provide it for me.

Parents: **This is very important!** If you would like to track the homework for this class on a daily basis, subscribe to my Google calendar from the Egan website: http://www.eganschool.org/egan2/calendar_schedule/google_calendar_subscribe.html or log on to my website: <http://www.curtis1.com> , Curt's Human Disease Website. This is my personal web project and from this web page you can access an assignment calendar for my 7th grade science class. I do my very best to keep it up to date and useful. If your child gives you that oft-heard refrain: "I have no homework tonight!" you can check it out for yourself. **It would be a great idea to bookmark the website and check it often.**

