Course requirements and student responsibilities for Ecology with Ms. Taylor

Ecology is a semester long course in which students will cover a variety of topics from ecosystems, human effects on the environment, biomes, environmental decision making, biodiversity, and organization of diversity, global warming, environmental issues, and ecological relationships along with other various topics.

I. HOW YOU, THE STUDENT, CAN BE SUCCESSFUL!

- **BE PREPARED**: read all assigned material, complete all assignments, study for all test and quizzes and come to class with all your material.
- **BE ORGANIZED**: maintain a neat folder or notebook that holds JUST science material.
- **EXERCISE LAB SAFETY**: follow all lab rules and procedures (including dress code mainly the shoes: no open toed shoes in lab, eye protection must be always worn during lab when working with chemicals). Improper conduct in lab will result in the loss of the next lab and book work will be assigned.
- **BE RESPECTFUL**: at all times to yourself, your peers, to all teachers and others that might be in the room. Improper conduct interferes with the learning of others. All students are expected to be respectful!
- Raise your hand to be called upon- **DO NOT BLURT OUT**!
  - Conduct class activities and lab activities in a very quiet voice. All improper conduct will be handled according to school policy.
- **No food is permitted in the class. As per the Health and Safety Plan, you may have a water bottle at your desk away from your Chromebook. Please make sure it has a spill prof lid.**
- **Electronic device usage is NOT permitted in the classroom other than your school issued Chromebook (Cell Phones, iPads, MP3 players, portable gaming systems and so on).**
  - If you are caught using an electronic device, then the device will be collected and turned into the school office as per the guidelines set forth in the student handbook page 6.
  - All cell phones should be placed in the cell phone storage area at the start of class and removed from the storage area at the end of class.
  - On test days, smart watches will need to be placed in the same storage area as the cell phone (same policy as the Keystone Exams and their code of conduct). If the test is given via Google Forms, you will need to take your test using your school issued Chromebook. **Outside deceives/accounts will not be permitted access to the Google Form.**
  - Recording via a cell phone, smart watch or Chromebook is considered illegal and not permitted in this classroom.
II. Daily class requirements

• Attendance
  o TARDY: entering after the late bell rings, come in, get your materials out and be quiet, do not disrupt the class. (3 unexcused tardy will result in detention).
  o DAILY Entrance to the room: Please either wash or sanitize your hands upon entering the classroom. Then check the assignment board for homework (on Monday’s copy down all assignments in your agenda), get your materials out for the class, complete the bell ringer, and check any homework then be ready to learn.
  o ABSENCES: Attendance is taken every day. It is to your benefit to attend class every day. If you miss, YOU ARE RESPONSILBE FOR GETTING THE WORK THAT YOU MISSED AND TURNING IN THE WORK. For SCHOOL RELATED ABSENCES (field trips/sporting events): Any assignment must be turned in before you leave school or assignments must be gotten before you leave. Educational trips: please get you materials before your trip and materials are due upon returning from the trip. Again, you are responsible for the work that you miss!
  o CLASS CUTS: you will receive a ZERO on any assignment or project that you miss along with 2 days of detention.
  o HALL PASSES: May be used at any time necessary but preferably the 1st 5 minutes/last 5 minutes of class (including before the late bell rings). Make sure you fill out the hall pass correctly (name, date, time in/out and location). Remember to either wash or sanitize your hands upon entering the classroom.
  o If given a pass for Remediation, please make sure you attend. Failure to attend will result in detention being assigned.

• Materials to bring every day
  o Chromebook: make sure you charge it before coming to school.
  o Book: Please do not put notebooks or folders in the textbook. This will damage the textbook.
  o Notebook or binder with filler paper
  o Folder
  o Red pen (checking your work), pencil, highlighter, package of colored pencils
  o Calculator
  o Agenda: Students will have time each Monday to copy homework into their agenda. Homework will be posted on Google classroom, my teacher web page and in the classroom.

III. GRADES

90-100 A  80-89 B  70-79 C  60-69 D  0-59 F

Please check Go Edustar for your child’s progress report. Grades are not weighted in this class.
• **ASSIGNMENTS:** Are a very important part of your grade. Assignments should be neat and turned in on time. Assignments must include your name, period, date on the upper right-hand corner part of the page.

• **QUIZZES:** are short in length and can be either announced or unannounced.

• **LABS:** usually require a formal lab report. There may also be lab quizzes or test. Remember that safety is always a priority.

• **TEST:** will be given at the end of each unit. You are responsible for all information that is presented throughout the unit. Test will usually be a combination of multiple choice, true/false, completion, illustrations that need to be labeled and short answers (essay).

• **Late work:** Assignments turned in late will have points taken off for being late.
  - 1st day late: 25% deduction of total points possible
  - 2nd day late: 50% deduction of total points possible
  - 3rd day late: 75% deduction of total points possible
  - 4th day late: No credit will be given.

• **PROJECTS:** Some chapters will have a project which requires research using the Chromebooks. Other projects may require the students to purchase materials such as poster board.

• Google Classroom will have HOMEWORK, TEST AND QUIZ information posted to it.

IV. Topics to be covered:

a. Introduction to Environmental Science  
b. The organization of life  
c. How Ecosystems work  
d. Biomes  
e. Aquatic Ecosystems  
f. Biodiversity  
g. Understanding Populations/Human population  
h. Environmental Science Research Project

**CHEATING OR PLAGIARISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED! A ZERO WILL BE GIVEN IF YOU ARE CAUGHT!**

V. Discipline procedure

1. **First offence:** Verbal warning  
2. **Second offence:** Detention (1 day) and phone call home  
3. **Third offence or multiple offences occurring at the same time:** Write Up (discipline referral).  
4. Any behaviors after the referral will result in a parent/teacher conference with ALL the teachers and a behavior plan.

Success in this class is YOUR responsibility. Everyone can be successful if you put forth an honest effort and try!
VI. Parents how YOU help your student be Successful!

1. Check the agenda/planner/Google Classroom for announcements about homework assignments, quizzes, test and project due dates. These items will be posted weekly.
   Example of what will be posted on Google Classroom in the Stream Section:
   - Week of __________
   - Monday:
   - Tuesday:
   - Wednesday:
   - Thursday:
   - Friday:
   - Chapter Test is ______________

2. Study with your child for test or quiz.

3. Check Go Edustar website (the link is posted on www.cgsd.org) for grade updates

4. If your child is absent due to an illness or educational trip, please call to get make up work. This will keep your child up to date on the material(s) that he/she missed.

5. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me via phone or email (rtaylor@cgsd.org). My voice mail is ext. *3266. Please leave a voice mail and I will return your call during 9:28-10:06 am.
Acknowledgement Form

I have read and understand what is expected of my child in Ecology. I am aware of the topics covered, class policies and procedures, supplies needed, and grading policy.

**Parent section:** I am aware that:

1. Parent Portal is available on the district website to view my child's grades. A password can be obtained through the office.

2. Ms. Taylor is available for tutoring help during 4B for any student needing additional help with an assignment, study for a test, make-up work, etc. and my child needs to obtain a pass for 4B.

3. Designated teacher planning time for parent communication is 9:28 – 10:08 am.

_________________________ ________________
Parent/ Guardian Name (printed) Date

_________________________
Parent/ Guardian Signature

_________________________
Parent email (please print)

_________________________ ________________
Home phone Cell or Work

**Preferred method of parent communication (please pick one):** Email Phone call

**Student Section**

I have read and understand what is expected of me in Ecology class. I am aware of the topics covered, class policies and procedures, supplies needed, and grading policy.

I am aware that Ms. Taylor is available for tutoring during 4B for me if I need additional help with an assignment, study for a test, make-up work, etc. and that I am responsible for obtaining a pass along with attending during 4B.

_________________________ ________________
Student Signature Date

This page needs to be returned by ______________ to Ms. Taylor.