**Contact Info**

Name: Ms. Amanda Starring Room: Admin 1033

Phone: 919-774-6226 ext. 2662 Website: starringscience.weebly.com

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Biology Tutorials: Thursday 6:55AM – 7:55 AM and 3:00PM – 4:00PM (Administration 1037)

**Required Materials**

1. Composition notebook (onewill be provided to student)
2. Several pens and pencils
3. Roll of scotch tape

**Requested Classroom Supplies**

Colored dry-erase markers, blue and black ink pens, Kleenex boxes, Lysol wipes

**Course Description**

The biology curriculum is designed to continue student investigations and deepen student understanding of the biological sciences. High school instruction should include concepts introduced in grades K – 8 at a more abstract level. In-depth study of the following concepts is included: structures and functions of living organisms, ecosystems, evolution and genetics, and molecular biology. The “North Carolina Essential Standards for Biology” is closely followed in this course. The Essential Standards can be accessed on the internet at:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/acre/standards/new-standards/science/biology.pdf>

**Grade Breakdown**

**Classwork/Homework … 15%**

Organization is an important part of being a successful scientist and student. Students will be expected to keep relevant loose leaf documents, class notes, and lab observations organized in a scientific laboratory book. The lab book will be collected and assessed at least once per unit. Homework will be given periodically and typically involve further practice or extension upon material learned in class. Homework will be assessed for completion and effort.

**Quizzes/Laboratories/Projects … 35%**

Quizzes (announced and unannounced) will be given regularly to assess student completion of assigned readings, notes, and classwork.

**Exams … 50%**

Exams will be administered at the conclusion of each unit. Exam formatting will include multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, matching, and essay.

**Final Exam (Teacher Made-Fall and NC EOC-Spring) … 20% of Final Grade**

The final exam will be cumulative and consist of information learned in class.

**Late Work**

It is your responsibility to make sure you are not missing any assignments, notes, etc. Look in the makeup basket and at your block’s lab look for the missing material.

* Assignments will be accepted up to one week past the due date and will be scored
* Ten points will be deducted from an assignment for every day past the due date
* If you are absent the day before a test or due assignment you are still responsible for taking the test or turning in the assignment on the day you return.

**Exam Retake Policy**

Students who fail an exam will be required to retake an assessment targeting similar standards during the weekly biology tutorial time before/after school on Thursdays. This retake must occur within one-week of receiving a graded exam back from the teacher. Student retake exam score can be up to 85% or the highest of the two attempts. Students who pass an exam with less than an 85% but wish to retake, have the option to do so to earn up to 85% or the highest of the two attempts. Parental contact will be made at the first failed exam and/or if a student fails to show up to tutorials to retake an exam.

**Academic Integrity**

Any student(s) involved in cheating, falsifying work, or plagiarism (using others’ work and not giving them credit) will receive a zero on the assignment and your parent or guardian will be contacted.

**Class Expectations**

1. **No talking while students or a teacher is addressing the class.** If you have questions raise your hand and wait until you are called upon.
2. **Be in class on time and prepared to learn.** In order to be marked “present” for the day, you must be in your seat with materials out and ready to work when the tardy bell rings. LCHS tardy policy will be strictly enforced.
3. **Follow instructions** as given by the teacher.
4. **Respect others** by keeping your hands, feet, objects, and negative comments to yourself.
5. Students are to stay seated, quiet, and to pick up all trash before being **dismissed by the teacher – Not the Bell.**

**Class Procedures**

* Raise your hand to participate/ask a question during direct instruction periods. Open and respectful conversation is allowed during class discussions.
* Students are allowed to get up to sharpen pencils, get tissues, and throw away trash when working in groups or individually. During instruction, exams, and quizzes, please raise your hand for permission.
* Use the bathroom before school starts, between classes, or during lunch. To avoid disruptions students are not allowed to leave the classroom during the first or last 20 minutes of class.
* The teacher dismisses the class, not the bell. Packing up your belongings early and standing at the door will not be tolerated.

**Consequences**

1. Verbal warning and reminder of broken procedure
2. Guardian contact/written warning/meeting after class
3. Referral to administration

**Tardy Policy 2016 – 2017**

* A student arriving at school **tardy prior to 8:45AM** should report directly to first period.
* A student arriving at school **tardy after 8:45 AM** should report directly to the Attendance Office. Failure to do so will result in a marked absence.
* If you arrive to class within the first 15 minutes of class you will be marked as tardy. Any time after will be considered as skipping class and will result in a referral to administration.

3 Tardies – Referral for 3 days of lunch detention in ISS or after school detention for 90 minutes

6 Tardies – Referral for 1 day ISS

9 Tardies – Referral for 1 day OSS

**Cell Phone Policy 2016 – 2017**

As per LCHS Policy, students are not to use, display, transmit or have in the “on” position, in any building, any type wireless communication device until after the conclusion of the instructional day at 3:00 PM.

**1st Offense** – Cell phone will be confiscated by the teacher and returned to student at the end of class. Parents and/or Guardians will be contacted.

**2nd Offense** – Cell phone will be confiscated by the teacher and turned over to administration. The cell phone will be returned at 3:00 PM. Parents and/or Guardians will be contacted.

**3rd Offense** – Cell phone will be confiscated by the teacher and turned over to administration. The cell phone may be held for multiple days. A third violation shall subject students to disciplinary actions up to and including Out of School Suspension

**Please sign and return the following page to Ms. Starring**

**Parent(s)/Guardian(s):**

I have read and understand the attached grading policy, the exam retake policy, and all classroom policies and procedures. I understand the consequences and will support the teacher in enforcing these policies.

Parent/Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home/Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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