Dear 6th grade Student,

Welcome to Science class. We try to learn something new every day in here and have fun in the process. For this to happen it is important for you to know what to expect from me when you come into my room, and in turn what I expect of you. Please read through my policies and sign the space below, if you understand what I am asking of you.

**Dress Code**

White or black shirts

Khaki, black, or navy blue slacks or skirts

A lightweight sweater/jacket may be worn in class (Consult your handbook for full policy)

**Personal Belongings**

You are responsible for your belongings

Each student will be assigned a cubby area within their homeroom class to store their books, lunch, backpacks, etc.

You are not allowed to carry backpacks with you during the school day.

\***Cell phones** are permitted at school if they are kept off and put away. If a teacher sees or hears a cell phone it will be turned into the office until a parent is able to pick it up. If you bring one to school keep it safe and keep it off.

**Restroom Break**

You will be given assigned times when it is permissible to use the restroom. These include during lunch and 1st, 3rd, and 5thperiod (at the teacher’s discretion).Please be sure to use your free time before homeroom and during lunch, so as not to lose class instructional time.

Students will be allowed to leave the classroom in the case of emergency. It is always necessary to have a hall pass whenever you leave class.

**Tardy to Class**

Students cannot enter class after the late bell without an admit slip from the office or another teacher. If you are tardy without excuse you will fill out a tardy slip upon entering class. Give your tardy slip to the class attendance manager.

**Entering Class**

Students should line up in a quiet, single file manner on the right side of the hall outside the classroom door until the teacher gives you permission to enter class. Then, you should proceed quickly to your seats and prepare for class. Please do not begin conversations as you come in so that we can maximize instructional time.

**Leaving Class**

The bell does not dismiss the class, the TEACHER DOES. The bell is a reminder to the teacher. You have 5 minutes to get to your next class, which is usually next door, so please do not stop working until you are instructed to do so.

**Absences**

All excuses for absences should be given to the attendance secretary in the office. She will give you a slip to show each of your teachers for an excused absence.

You are responsible for all missed work, when you are absent.

You should see the Absentee Manager or the teacher upon your return, to find out what you missed.

You have as many days as you were out to make up the work, before it is considered late (ex. ill for 2 days=2 school days to make up the work).

**After School Detentions**

Detentions may be scheduled for excessive missed homework more than 2 tardies to class, or repeated bad behavior. You will be given a notice to advise your parents when a detention is scheduled, and you will be required to provide your own transportation home. Detentions are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00-2:30 in one of the honors teachers’ room.

**Hall Conduct**

As a 6th grade Honors student you are expected to be a role model to the school. Always walk in a single file on the right side of the hall. Do not lean on the walls or jump in the air.

Stay quiet, be respectful of other classes.

**Homework**

AN AGENDA BOOK IS REQUIRED. The school will distribute these to each student in the near future at no charge. It will become your survival guide and hall pass this year. Please treat it responsibly!

You must stay very organized to be successful this year. Homework will be given on most nights Mon.-Thurs. You will find it located on the left hand side of the blackboard. It is due when you enter the classroom. If for any reason you do not have the assignment on the day it is due, you will fill out the “Homework Excuse” log which will be kept for your parents to review during conferences. Once there are three entries in your log, a home contact will be made to determine why you are struggling with homework assignments.

**Paper Headings**

All papers should be headed on the left side margin with

1. Student’s first and last name (You all have last names-USE THEM!)

2. Homeroom section/class period

3. Date and assignment (ex. page 351 ques. 1-3)

**Projects**

Students will receive a project each nine weeks. Projects are counted as 2 test grades. They will be a mix of individual and group projects. Some will need to be worked on at home and others will be done primarily in class. In addition, there will usually be an extra credit opportunity each nine weeks.

**Thesis Papers and Self-reflections**

In addition to your nine week projects, students will be expected to write a Thesis paper answering our Unit question each quarter. Students will also write another paper reflecting on the work they have done over the past nine weeks in their notebook.

**ParentConnect-Online Grades**

Parents may look at your grades online using Parent Connect. You must have an account to do this, and passwords are issued by the school office.

Grades are entered as teacher’s time permits, so all grades may not be present at any one time. SCS has a free app for smart phones. Parents may use this app to access attendance and grade information at their convenience.

**Late Work**

Anything handed in after the teacher has collected the assignment is considered late. Place all late work in the “Please Grade Me” box with your name and period clearly labeled. Do not expect immediate feedback on late work.

Policy on late work:

1 day late-10% deduction

2 days late-20% deduction

3 or more days late-30% deduction

**Websites you will need**

Mrs. Horn’s class: [**http://science6cms.weebly.com**](http://science6cms.weebly.com/)

Online science textbook: go.hrw.com

Gizmos: Explorelearning.com

Cordova Middle School: <http://www.mcsk12.net/schools/cordova.ms/site/index.shtml>

**Disciplinary Steps**

We will be working very hard in here. There will be no time for drama or immaturity. As part of the Honors Team you are expected to have excellent conduct. However, in the event of a behavior issue, the following escalating discipline track will be used:

* Step 1-verbal warning
* Step 2-change of seating
* Step 3-after class conference and behavior reflection
* Step 4-parent contact-phone conference, email, etc.
* Step 5-referral to a school administrator

**Tutoring**

If you are having difficulty with the material, I will offer tutoring on Thursdays from 2:15-3:00 beginning in September

**Interactive Science Notebook**

Each student is required to maintain an interactive science notebook for this course. Once we set up this notebook it is imperative that you bring it to class daily and keep track of it. Many, many of the grades for this class will be taken from the work you have done in that journal. Treat it with pride as it will show what a scientific thinker you are through the year.

**Lab work**

This is a science class and we try to do as many hand- on activities and mini labs as we are able. For this reason it is important that each student listen and follow directions carefully, so that the entire class is able to learn and engage in the activities.

Any student unable to maintain their self-control during these activities will be asked to sit in a neighboring teacher’s classroom. They will be unable to make up the lab.

I have read and understand the expectations that Mrs. Horn has for me in her classroom.

Student signature: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Contact information:**

Maureen Horn

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Email: [HornM@scsk12.org](mailto:HornM@scsk12.org) Planning time: 11:10-12:00