Welcome to Ms. Benkendorff's 7th Grade Science Class

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Course Description: Providing a safe learning environment is one of my primary goals. This allows students to feel respected, engaged, and excited to learn science.

Course Standards:

Amplify Science: This is an Interactive online program. In each Amplify unit students take on the role of Scientists and investigate a real world 21s century problem. https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/sc/ngssstandards.asp	**Geology on Mars:** -understanding landforms -planet habitability requirements -using evidence to support a claim	**Plate Motion:** -understanding fossils to learn about earth's past -plate tectonics -convections currents -using evidence to support a claim	**Rock Transformations:** -energy drives Earth's processes -the cycling of Earth's materials -the Earth is dynamic -using evidence to support a claim
Phase Change: -molecular scale & macroscale -molecular movement of a substance -energy transfer -molecular attraction -using evidence to support a claim	**Chemical Reactions:** -substances and their properties -products and ractactans -atoms cannot be created or destroyed -using evidence to support a claim	**Populations and Resources:** -resources affect a population -energy in a food web -births and deaths in a population -using evidence to support a claim	**Matter and Energy in Ecosystems:** -cellular respiration and photosynthesis -energy movement in an ecosystem -using evidence to support a claim

Standards Based Grading

- ❑ Student work is graded directly whether it demonstrates a mastery of a clear list of objectives.
- ❑ Students can have multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery of an objective.

NGSS

Our classroom learning follows the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). NGSS follows a three dimensional approach to science to include:: cross-cutting concepts, science & engineering practices, and disciplinary core ideas. Students will learn to think like scientists and engineers with an emphasis on inquiry based learning. For more information on NGSS please visit: www.nextgenscience.org

Google Classroom (GC)

Google Classroom is the "digital" resource for each Amplify unit we cover in science. GC will be used each day. Sign in at classroom.google.com

If You Are Absent:

- ❑ Be responsible
- ❑ Ask for help
- ❑ Email teacher
- ❑ Attend tutoring (at lunch or afterschool each Thursday)

Be Prepared Day

- ❑ Charge your computer each night
- ❑ Computers will be used daily
- ❑ Come to school with paper, binder, colored pencils, science handouts.

How Will Students Learn

- ❑ Evaluating Evidence
- ❑ Explaining phenomena
- ❑ Analyzing and interpreting data
- ❑ Group Work / Active Readings
- ❑ Constructing and explaining models

Behavioral Expectations

- ❑ Be Safe
- ❑ Be Respectful
- ❑ Be Responsible
- ❑ Work Together

Homework/Late Policy

- ❑ Every effort should be made to hand in assignments on time
- ❑ Make-up work from absences is due the same number of days upon return that you were gone. (Absent 1 day, due 1 day after you get back. Gone for 3 days, due 3 days after you get back.)
- ❑ LATE assignments accepted. Must be turned in within the semester.