**Grading Policy for Mr. Hall’s 2019-20 Science Course**

**Rationale**

1. Grading within my classroom will be based upon the degree of success an individual student has achieved in demonstrating his/her understanding of the material taught throughout the course as designed to meet his/her unique needs.

2. Every student will have the opportunity to earn grades that reflect his/her ability to demonstrate learning outcomes and be graded mostly in accordance with their achievement on material or information based on specified learning outcomes and approved curricula.

3. The bell curve will not be used as a basis for determining student grades, but rather their grades will be based on the individual achievement for each student.

**Grading Elements**

1. The grades earned will relate to following categories of achievement:

* 90-100% = Excellent progress toward demonstrating an understanding of concepts and expected learning outcomes
* 80-89% = Above average progress toward demonstrating an understanding of concepts and learning outcomes
* 70-79% = Average progress toward demonstrating an understanding of concepts and learning outcomes
* 60-69% = Below Average progress toward demonstrating an understanding of concepts and learning outcomes
* 50-59% = Failure to adequately demonstrate an understanding of concepts and learning outcomes

2. Factors used to determine student grades will include the following items. Each item carries the percent of the overall grade that it represents:

1. Summative Assessments (end of unit tests and tasks) (75%)
2. Formative Assessments (end of topic quizzes and projects1) (15%)
3. PrepWork (in unit labs, investigations, projects and assignments (10%)

**Determining Term and Final Grades**

1. For each trimester, students will receive a term grade based on the following breakdown of categories of work:

1. Summative Assessments (end of unit tests and tasks) (75%)
2. Formative Assessments (end of topic quizzes and projects1) (15%)
3. PrepWork (in unit labs, investigations, projects and assignments (10%)

All assignments and assessments will be given an overall total possible point value, based on the amount of content covered and overall length of the assignment. The assignments will then be assigned into the related category for the type of assignment/assessment from the categories above. Overall grades for each category will be calculated by dividing the total points received in each category by the total possible points of that category for the term.

2. End-of-year grades will be calculated by averaging the 3 trimester grades together.

**Prep Work**

During the course of each unit, there will be numerous assignments given (some in class and some as homework). These assignments are intended to build the student’s understanding of a topic and are part of the progression for the unit. All of these assignments are necessary for a student to fully benefit from the class activity/activities for that topic. As a result, each student will be given a Prep Work grade on their completion of the expected work (4 – fully completed with significant effort, 3 - fully completed but with limited effort, 2 - partially completed with effort, 1 – partially completed with limited effort, and 0 – not completed). This will be entered into the Powerschool system as they are assigned and will help to identify how well a student is preparing for their learning.

**Assessment Score Improvement**

All assessments will have an opportunity to improve on the score received. This may be in the form of a corrections process or re-take (depending on the assignment). The corrections process will be outlined for each assessment as they come up. If a re-take is offered, students will have to do an additional teacher assigned task to earn the option of the re-take. Any re-take grade will replace the original grade for the assessment. Students will be permitted to take as many re-takes as they would like during the term, but must complete an additional assignment to earn each re-take. Re-takes will have to be completed outside of the regular class period (FLEX, lunch or afterschool). If a student regularly fails to prepare for the original assessment, they may lose the opportunity to do a re-take. Re-takes are not intended to be used to postpone an assessment, but rather as a way to extend the learning window for more challenging concepts.

**Grade Minimum**

All assessments will have a grade minimum of 50%. This grade minimum will help to ensure that no single assignment or assessment is more heavily weighted than another.