

FSMS Families,

My name is Madison McVey and I'll be your student's science teacher this year! I am so excited to partner with you and your student!

8<sup>th</sup> grade science is a great year. We dive into many different topics, visiting concepts from each of the major categories of science. Our lessons include lots of labs and hands on activities, as well as student interest-based projects.

Some of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade science team's goals for our students are for them to learn how to work with others, give feedback and assess their learning, and discover what learning and study styles work best for them before they transition to high school.

We also encourage our students to start advocating for themselves regularly if they aren't already. For example, emailing or Schoology messaging teachers themselves if they have a question outside of class time, checking their grades regularly, and communicating with teachers about absences and late work. Student advocacy is important for their success in life!

Below are some action items:

1. **Students will need to bring a composition notebook by Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.**
  1. Our science journals are the focal point of our lessons. Students use their journals to keep notes, activities, and store lab handouts. We'll refer to material in the journals throughout the year as we connect previous learning to new content areas. These notebooks will stay in the classroom, but are available to bring home when needed.
2. **Look through the attached Science Syllabus**
  1. We'll go over this in class and students will have a copy in their journals and online via Schoology.
3. **Fill out the Science Safety Contract**
  1. [Science Safety Contract](#)
  2. This will be your student's first **DAILY GRADE**. Please do this by 8/15!
4. **Consider donating some supplies to our classroom.**
  1. [Supply Wish List](#) - This is an Amazon List that if ordered from, will ship directly to FSMS and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science team.
    1. If ordering on Amazon is not possible for you or you'd prefer to shop in person, please feel free to choose anything from the list and have your student bring it to class or drop it off in the front office. We will accept things in whatever way works best for you!
  2. On the list, you'll find supplies such as pencils, glue, tape, etc., which help students as they use their journals. Additionally, you will see Clorox wipes, paper towels, tissues, etc. to help support classroom labs and procedures.

3. If you decide to donate supplies, please order or have your student bring them to class/drop them off at the front office by Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. **Thank you so much, we truly appreciate your support!**

Email is the best way to communicate with me. I also encourage my students to use Schoology messages.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns at any time during the school year! Each week, I will send a weekly Friday email highlighting what we have covered and previewing what we do the next week. It also includes important reminders, so please ensure you are reading that each week.

I'm looking forward to a great school year!

Best,  
Madison McVey