

# Welcome 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents!

Mr. Fini  
BELL Academy

## A little about me:

- This is my 5<sup>th</sup> year teaching
- I used to work in Dyker Heights Brooklyn teaching 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science and Living Environment
- I received a Bachelors Degree in Biology from SUNY Albany
- Teacher Certification and a MSED in Biology Education from Queens College

## Grade 8 Science Program

- **Unit 1- Science Inquiry**
  - Lab safety
  - Metric System
  - Microscopes
  - Scientific Method
- **Unit 2- Forces and Motion**
  - Motion (Distance, Time, Direction, Speed, and Acceleration)
  - Forces (Net Force, Friction, Newton's Laws of Motion, and Gravity)

## Grade 8 Science Program

- **Unit 3- Earth, Sun, and Moon**
  - Earth's Motion, Time, and Seasons
  - Moon Phases and Eclipses
  - Waves and Tides
  - Solar System Review
- **Unit 4- Body Homeostasis (Human Body Systems)**
  - Human Respiration (Respiratory System)
  - Locomotion (Skeletal and Muscular System)
  - Circulatory System
  - Digestive System
  - Excretory System (Urinary Tract System)
  - Immune System
  - Nervous System
  - Endocrine System
  - Reproductive System

## Grade 8 Science Program

- *Unit 5- Cellular Reproduction and Genetics*
  - Mitosis (Cellular reproduction [asexual and sexual])
  - Meiosis (Gametogenesis/oogenesis/spermatogenesis)
  - Mendelian Genetics
  - Modern Genetics
  - Bio-Technology
- *Unit 6- Evolution and Ecology*
  - Darwin VS. Lamarck
  - Evidence of Evolution
  - Modern Theory of Evolution
  - Genetic Engineering
  - Abiotic VS. Biotic Factors
  - Biomes
  - Energy Flow
  - Food Chains
  - Recycling and Environmental Safety

## Grade 8 Science Program

- *Unit 7- Review*
  - Review for 8<sup>th</sup> grade science
  - Lab Stations for 8<sup>th</sup> grade science exam
  - State exam include 2 parts
    - Lab practical
    - Written exam (multiple choice and short answer)
- *Review Materials*
  - Throughout the year, exams will be designed the same way the state exams are
  - I have plenty of materials I will be sending home throughout the year
  - In addition, at the end of the year I will post review documents online

## Classroom Expectations

- All students are held to high expectations
- Students will be required to actively participate and be part of every lesson
- There are no wrong answers and it is encouraged to ask clarifying questions if they do not understand
- Respect is mutual and no one should ever be put down

## Grading Policy

- 35% Exams
- 25% Projects and Labs
- 15% Quizzes
- 15% Homework
- 10% Class work
- Grades will be given as a Raw score
  - For example, if a test has 35 questions, the maximum score on the exam would be a 35/35

## Tests and Quizzes

- Tests and Quizzes will always be announced about one week before hand
- Tests will always have multiple choice and short answers questions.
- They are designed to mimic the style of student state exams
- They will cover multiple topics of the same unit
- Quizzes are always multiple choice (15 questions or less) unless noted

## Homework and Science Lab Policy

- Homework and Labs will never be assigned as busy work
- There is a strict policy when handing in work on time
- Work will be given full credit only if it is handed in on the day it is due. If it is not, work will only be awarded half credit once handed in.
- Each student is responsible for handing in his or her own individual lab write-up, even if the lab work was conducted with another student.

## Questions?