

Dear Parents or Guardians:

I would like to introduce myself as I begin a new trimester with your student as his/her Science Topic teacher. I have been teaching with Grandville Public School System since 1993. I came to the teaching profession after working as a meteorologist in industry and the broadcasting media for thirteen years. I am very excited to be teaching the science topic class as this course meets the State of Michigan standards for seventh graders in the area of weather and climate. This exploratory class will lead students to discover how weather is studied, predicted, and applied to daily life with an emphasis on the state of Michigan's weather and climate.

This class is unique due to the fact your seventh grader's mind will be stretched and introduced to using creative thinking skills in science. In other words, this will not be structured like elementary science where information is memorized. At this stage the State of Michigan curriculum requires that your student be able to take their science knowledge and apply it to real world situations. This will include not only learning new science knowledge, but using the student's critical thinking skills to discover a new level of weather science. We will be building on your student's previous weather knowledge that was introduced in the elementary setting and expanding that knowledge through the processes of discovery. This will include the scientific method, structured laboratory reports, communication skills, writing in full and complete sentences, taking responsibility for completing assignments by the set due date, and asking for assistance from me when they do not grasp the concept being presented.

As with any subject in school, parents/guardians, students, and the teacher all working together and keeping the lines of communication open will ensure success. Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have about your student's progress. Please go over the Science Topics Expectations and Guidelines handout with your student. After you have reviewed the handout together, return a signed copy and keep the second copy for referral purposes. You can also find a copy of any of the class materials and assignments on my website at: <http://mrscsciencetopics.weebly.com/>

I am looking forward to working with you and your student during this trimester and expect it to be a unique learning experience.

Sincerely,



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