



Filemon B. Vela Middle School

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Acacia Ameal
Dean of Instruction

Maria Patricia Martinez
Assistant Principal

Cesar Murillo
Assistant Principal

Dr. Esperanza Zendejas
Superintendent

Joel Wood
Principal

8th Grade Science

Teacher: Mr. M Rojas **Room:** 203 **e-mail:** mirojas@bisd.us
Conference Time: 2:00 PM – 2:50 PM **School Phone:** (956) 548-7770
Textbook: TX Science Fusion Grade 8

Introduction:

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year. It is our goal to encourage all students to be inquisitive and knowledgeable about how the world around us works. We have new interactive books, learning strategies, group activities, Labs, demonstrations, and other projects that will hopefully stimulate and ignite your passion for scientific investigation, problem solving, and knowledge.

Subject Overview from the Texas Education Agency:

Grade 8 science is interdisciplinary in nature; however, much of the content focus is on earth and space science. National standards in science are organized as multi-grade blocks such as Grades 5-8 rather than individual grade levels. In order to follow the grade level format used in Texas, the various national standards are found among Grades 6, 7, and 8. Recurring themes are pervasive in sciences, mathematics, and technology. These ideas transcend disciplinary boundaries and include change and constancy, patterns, cycles, systems, models, and scales.

Science Blueprint:

Reporting Category 1: Matter and Energy
Reporting Category 2: Force, Motion, and Energy
Reporting Category 3: Earth and Space
Reporting Category 4: Organisms and Environment

Differentiation for Pre-AP/GT Students:

- Utilize creative problem solving processes to design and execute laboratories.
- Develop research proficiency by articulating data collecting skills, enhancing organizational ability, utilizing problem solving expertise in experimental labs and providing graphical interpretations and statistical analysis.
- Elaborate on topics covered in class. Topics that arise from lecture or class discussion may be the basis for further investigation.
- Seminar teaching. Student will be asked to discuss material or undertake peer teaching of special topics covered in class.
- STEM: Participate in Problem Based Learning, Brainsville, and Science Fair (optional).

Technology:

Our students will be using the following website for instructional purposes..

- Our science website is... <http://velascience.weebly.com/>
- Zingy (for enhancing learning of content)... <http://www.zingylearning.com>
- ClassDojo
- Plickers

Supplies:

- 1-5 Subject Notebook
- 1 Pk. Color Paper
- Color pencils
- Pen / pencils
- Scissors
- Clear tape
- Glue sticks
- Sharpener
- Stapler
- Highlighters
- Box of tissue paper
- Box of ziploc bags (zipper)
- Clorox wipes
- 1 pk. Index Cards

Grading Policy:

Makeup-work, Retests, Homework, Late Work, and issues with scholastic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with the 2016-2017 Vela Student Hand Book/ Code of Conduct.

Science Class Rules:

1. Follow all Lab Safety Rules *Students must review lab safety procedures, sign a safety contract, and pass a lab safety exam before they are allowed to participate on any hands on science investigations.
 2. Be on time to class
 3. Be prepared with materials for instruction
 4. Be respectful to everyone
 5. Use proper language
 6. Have fun Learning☺
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8th Grade Science Acknowledgment Statement

Mr. M. Rojas Room: 203

Period #: _____

We have received a copy of the class syllabus, a team supply list, the Vela Student Hand Book, and a copy of the Lab Safety Contract. We understand that it is our responsibility to discuss these documents, and understand that consequences are in place should any of the class, campus, or district rules be violated. I am aware that school grades can be checked at any time from home using the Home Access Center website.

Student ID #: _____

Student Name: _____ signature: _____ date: _____

Parent/guardian: _____ signature: _____ date: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

Comments: