Welcome to AP Chemistry!

Course Description/Units of study: AP Chemistry is a highly demanding high school course that is the academic equivalent of two semesters of general college chemistry lecture and lab. For some students, this course enables them to undertake, as college freshman, second-year work in the chemistry sequence at their institution, or to register in courses in other fields where general chemistry is a prerequisite. Many colleges offer college credit for passing scores on the AP Exam. Prerequisites: Chemistry 1 and 2. Algebra 2 is highly recommended.

The main units in our textbook we will be covering this semester are:

- Structure of Matter
- Chemical Reactions
- Properties of matter
- Rates of Reactions
- Equilibrium
- Thermochemistry

Flipped Classroom: I will be using a relatively new educational delivery method this year with my honors and AP students. It is called a “flipped classroom.” Instead of all lecture being during class and all problem solving being done at home, the order will be flipped for some topics. Some lecture is through short videos at home and the problem solving will be done in class when the students need their teacher’s support the most. This means that the homework will be to watch and take notes on the assigned videos at home through Office 365. I have shared a folder on Office 365 that will have PowerPoints, videos and worksheets for students. Students are expected to take notes in some way and this will be checked and graded periodically. Class time will be used for labs, problem solving, and occasionally a short lecture. Students will have access to me during class time to help them with difficult problems and calculations. Students will still need to manage their class time and work efficiently. Any work that doesn’t get finished in class will ultimately be homework.

I will be following the approach started by Jon Bergman and Aaron Sams. If you need more information here are some resources:

Flip Your Classroom: Reach Every Student, in Every Class Everyday by Jon Bergman and Aaron Sams.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4a7NbUIr_iQ
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5bYuYvl42I

If there are any issues with internet access, please email or call me and we can find an alternative way for your student to get the videos and benefit from this new form of learning.

AP Chemistry Exam: All AP chem students are expected to take the exam in May ‘18.

Preparation for the Exam in the Spring: Because this course ends in January, and the AP exam is in May, students! will need to attend additional flex mod and after-school classes to review and prepare for the exam. All AP Chemistry students are expected to attend these review classes. You will not be adequately prepared to take the exam if you do not attend classes in the spring

Materials Needed: You will need to bring on a daily basis the following

- #2 Pencils
- Pen (blue or black in ink)
- Paper or spiral notebook
- Scientific calculator
- Three ring notebook (2 inch inch) with dividers
- Closed toe shoes

I am asking that each student donate a roll of paper towels or a box of tissues

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Laboratory Notebook: You will need a specialized student lab notebook with numbered duplicate pages. These are for purchase through SCHS. Please bring check made out to SCHS to me and I will give you your notebook Please write check to SCHS for $10.53
Tardiness:
**Mod 1 Students:** As per school policy, students are considered tardy to school if not in class by the bell. Students must sign in with office staff. Any consequences for repeatedly being late to school are outlined in CCPS policy and will be handled by administration.

**Other Mods:** Students are expected to be in their seats and working on “Drill and Objectives” by the late bell. As per school policy, students are not permitted into the classroom after the late bell without a pass. The following is the sequence of consequences: First late - verbal warning, second late - parent contact, third late – one lunch detention, fourth and all additional - referral to administrator

**Hall Passes:** Bathroom/water fountain passes will be issued by teacher. One student may use the bathroom/water fountain pass at a time. All other requests, the teacher will write the student a paper pass.

**BYOD Policy** *(Cell Phone/tablet/laptop/etc):*
- Student will be responsible for using their BYOD device responsibly in class.
- Student and parents will have read and sign CCPS BYOD agreement prior to use.
- If using BYOD device, students must be logged in on **CCPS wireless network.**
- Students are permitted to use the BYOD device at teacher’s discretion.
- No cell phone or BYOD device use of any kind will be allowed during tests or quizzes. (Not even as a calculator!)
- Cell phone privileges can be revoked if a student is found texting or using social media or is using in a discourteous manner.

**Academic Honesty:** Honesty is an essential component for success in both academics and the professional scientific field; therefore, the school’s academic honesty policy will be strictly enforced. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, using portable technology during test or quiz, talking during a test or quiz, copying answers, allowing others to copy your work, and plagiarism. Appropriate disciplinary consequences will follow school policy.

**Individual Help:**
First of all – SEEK OUT HELP – there is no shame – chemistry is HARD! In all my time teaching, I have never had a student who would not have benefited from some help outside of class. DON’T DELAY – as soon as you are feeling a little lost, come talk with me. ‘A little lost’ can rapidly become a frustrating “totally lost”. I am available during flex mod and before school most days – but talk to me ahead of time so I can escort you in the building before 7am and/or write you a pass.

**Grading Policy:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight (Formative Assignments)</th>
<th>Weight (Summative Assignments)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class work/Problem sets</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Video/Notes</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>Quizzes/Tests/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labs</td>
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Final exam will be 1/10th of final grade

**Letter Grades**
- 90 - 100% A
- 80 – 89% B
- 70 – 79% C
- 60 – 69% D
- 59% and below F
Special lab rules:
- Safety in lab is our top priority. Violating your safety contract is unacceptable.
- Because this is a lab class, **food** is not permitted in the classroom at anytime. Also this will help cut down on the pest population in the building.
- Because this is a lab class, **no water bottles** are permitted in the classroom **during lab**.
- Wear safety goggles at all times during a lab activity. **This is a Maryland state law and no warnings will be given.** Failure to uphold this rule will result in your removal from the lab area thus receiving a zero for that lab activity.
- **Closed toe shoes must be worn during lab.** Students not prepared for lab with proper foot wear will not be allowed to participate in lab. They may not remain in the lab area during lab for safety reasons. They will be given an alternate assignment to complete at home to make up points.
- Results of an experiment may/should be shared. The discussion and conclusion must be individual.

Absences/ Make-Up Work: Students are expected to attend all classes unless otherwise excused. If you know of an absence in advance please see the instructor for make-up work. If student is absent from school I will allow 1 school day/1 absent day to turn in assignments. Make-up work is the student’s responsibility.

Late Work:
- “NHI” (“Not handed in”) will be entered into the grade book until late work is turned in and graded. It is equivalent to a zero.
- **Absent** - If student is absent from school I will allow 1 school day/1 absent day for **full credit**. This includes test and quizzes. “ABS” (“Absent”) will be entered into the grade book until absent work is turned in and graded. It is equivalent to a zero.
- **Make Up Labs**: An alternative assignment will be assigned.
- **Graded notes**: In a flipped classroom, watching videos and completing notes are essential. Notes are expected to be completed on time to facilitate learning. Notes will be graded periodically without warning. If a student does not have notes completed on time, they have until the end of the school day to complete them for full credit. If they complete them after the cut off, they can earn a maximum of 60% credit.
- **Class work/ Lab/Problems Sets** – I will accept late work for full credit by two cut off points, three days before interim and 7 days before end of marking period. However, if assignment is not turned in on time there are natural consequences.
  1. NHI is entered into grade system until work is received.
  2. Quiz and test performance will most likely be adversely affected as you have not given yourself a chance to master the material.
  3. Late work is not eligible for second chance learning.

Second-Chance Learning:
- Second-chance learning is available for summative quizzes and tests.
- Second-chance learning is not meant to be used as a regular practice by a student or as a substitute for lack of preparation.
- In order to take advantage of second-chance learning the student will confer with the teacher to determine an agreed upon re-learning plan. At the conference the student should bring **all** formative assignments (fixed to at least 90%) pertaining to the quiz/test (chapter problem sets, notes from videos, and chapter problem sets, completed study guide) and the test or quiz fixed.
- At the teacher’s discretion, a remediation assignment will be assigned in keeping with to the learning needs of the individual student.
- Upon completion of the remediation assignment, the student will be eligible to for second chance learning opportunity (Ex. quiz-retake). The student must sign up to complete the second chance learning opportunity in FLEX or in the learning lab/CAV lab.
- The higher score will be displayed in grade record.
- All quiz and test second chance learning must take place before the 7 days before end of marking period.

Communication: I am available either via email (ljmcgui@carrollk12.org) or via phone (410-751-3575) to discuss any problems or concerns.