Welcome to Regents Physics!

This course will follow and expand upon the New York State Regents Syllabus for Physics. The core areas to be covered throughout the year include:

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|  **Topic 1:** Math and Measurement |
|  **Topic 2:** Newtonian Mechanics |
|  **Topic 3:** Energy |
|  **Topic 4:** Electricity and Magnetism |
|  **Topic 5:** Wave Phenomena |
|  **Topic 6:** Modern Physics |

**Grading Policy**: Quarterly grades will be computed as follows:

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| --- | --- |
| Exams  | 40% |
| Quizzes | 25% |
| Lab reports | 20%  |
| Homework/Classwork | 10%  |
| Participation/Behavior | 5% |

**Exams**: given after each major topic. Notice is given in advance. Exams will contain both multiple choice and problem solving questions as well as free response questions. If you are absent, please be prepared to take a makeup test the day you return to school. Some tests can possibly have bonus points incorporated into them, however, a makeup test will not be eligible for bonus points. Science Testing Day is on Fridays this year.

**Quizzes**: given on regular basis before each exam covering material on all homework assignments prior to that day, but could possibly deviate, if necessary. A quiz will be composed of the basic topics covered on the prior HW assignments and includes some topics and concepts covered in class problems as well. You must stay on top of your work throughout the year to perform well on quizzes. Makeup quizzes are not given unless you have already missed a quiz in the quarter. Please be prepared to take the quiz the next day you are in school. Option of dropping one quiz per quarter is earned by each student by proper preparation and classroom behavior.

**Labs**: handed in on day set by teacher. Labs write-ups must follow directions and format as indicated in our Lab Manual. Late lab reports are penalized 5 points per day until one week, after which the lab will no longer be accepted and a grade of zero is earned. All lab write-ups must be written professionally and neatly, representing a report that shows your best effort.

**Homework/Classwork**: assigned each week. If present when the bell rings, you are expected to submit your homework within the *first 5 minutes of class*. Late homework earns half-credit. Homework is checked and recorded and is reflected in final quarterly grade.

**Participation/Behavior:**

**Active Participation - 1 point** - answering questions, asking questions, doing problems.
**Passive Participation - 2 points** - Counted for both in class and out of classwork (completion of all class assignments is considered part of your participation; skipping assignments or failing homework is unacceptable and will lose points). Please bring binder, calculator and Reference Tables to class everyday. Passive participation also entails working on classwork problems and showing interest in class.
**General Behavior / Lateness - 2 points** – For general behavior and lateness. Sleeping in class, using cell phones and distraction with other work will cause you to earn ZERO of these points. Our number one classroom rule is having awareness of and always showing mutual respect for one another.

**Course Materials**:

* Large loose-leaf binder
* 1-inch binder for Lab Manual/Workbook
* Physics Reference Tables to class every day
* Calculator
* Textbook (Reference text to be kept at home)

**Physics Policies for all written work**

**The following policy applies to every written assignment, test, quiz, lab, homework or piece of work otherwise created that is turned in to be graded.**

- Every assignment must have problems worked out as demonstrated in class, with neatness, detail and clarity. Points can be deducted for poor organization and sloppiness.

- Pictures and other relevant diagrams neatly shown and properly labeled must be included for all problems whether or not the problem questions specifically asks for it.

- Units must appear on EVERY problem within the work and on all substitutions as well as on the answers. If answers are written more than once in different locations, units must appear in both locations. Essentially, all numbers should have units on them.

- Every number written down must be directly preceded by a formula. You may not write a formula at the top or side of the page and indicate it is used in the problem. The relevant formula should be written down and directly underneath it the value substitution with units should be shown. Underneath the substitution, relevant algebra steps should also be shown.

- Numerical answers should not be in fraction form and should be rounded to 2 decimal places. Copying every digit shown on the calculator is unacceptable. For very small numbers, 2 non zero digits should be shown (ex: 0.0000005435, should obviously not be rounded to zero but should be rounded to 0.00000054, which is even better written in scientific form 5.4 x 10-7 ).

- All steps in a problem must be shown. Everything done on the calculator should be written down with all algebra steps shown and units shown when plugging in numbers

- Answers MUST be boxed or circled; I should not have to look for the answer to a problem. Answers that are not circled or boxed will be considered unorganized work. For problems with multiple sections a,b,c, - it should be clear as to which section your answer and work applies to.

- Answers to concept questions must always be justified and explained. Nothing should be implied in a question; rather you should elaborate to the extent described in class. Answers do not have to be full sentences; however, they should be complete and thorough, accurately explaining all reasons for an answer.

**Extra Help**: It is my pleasure to help you outside of our class time, as needed. Please arrive with prepared questions or work that you have previously done. Make an appointment or show up within 10 minutes of 9th period bell, or by appointment. Please also visit our class website (link found on Great Neck South High Science page) to see all of the information and help available to students. [www.roozdar.weebly.com](http://www.roozdar.weebly.com)

It’s my pleasure to keep in touch with you!

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