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Public Schools

CP Biology - Pirie

CP Biology Ms. Pirie

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**Course Description:**

*Grades 10-12 Full Year 1 Credit School-wide Expectations: 1, 3, and 5C*

Biology is the study of life. Therefore, understanding life and life processes depends on mastering the unifying principles and concepts applicable to all life forms. This course examines the fundamental unity in the diversity of life forms. This program focuses on major life processes. In doing so, each process is discussed using a variety of examples from the kingdoms of organisms. Students become aware that all organisms carry out the same functions, and thus, the ways that organisms are adapted to carry out those functions can be better appreciated. Several experiments leading to the development of major principles are discussed and analyzed historically. In this way, students learn to appreciate how scientists gather and organize information about the world. This course is required for graduation.

**Textbook:**

*Biology*, Miller & Levine

**Course Objectives:**

We will cover 4 major themes:

1. Structure and function from molecules to organisms

2. Inheritance and variation of traits

3. Ecosystem dynamics

4. Evolution and natural selection

**Required Materials:**

1. Three ringed binder with several paper dividers (used to store ALL papers from class) EVERY PAPER NEEDS TO BE SAVED FOR LATER REFERENCE!

2. One subject notebook or loose leaf paper in the three ringed binder (you will be taking notes)

3. Multiple pencils or pens (to be brought to class DAILY)

4. A calculator is recommended but not required

**Tests and Quizzes**

### Material will come primarily from class discussions, activities, and notes — what we do in class is reflects what you need to learn.

### Test material may come from any activity, including labs, classwork and homework.

### Format of tests is multiple choice, short answer, and “free response” questions that will require you to apply knowledge to a new problem.

**Policies:**

* When homework is assigned, it is due the next time the class meets.
* Students who will arrive late to class will need to present a pass signed by a teacher, administrator, attendance, or guidance
* ***Late work may not be accepted at full credit.***
* ***There will be a 5% reduction in the grade for each school day the work is late.***
* ***Major projects and lab reports that are late will automatically receive a 65%, and additional points will be taken off from there based on the quality of the work***
* Any student missing class due to an absence (excused or unexcused) will be required to make up the work. Missing work is put into an “Absent Box” with your name on it to pick up when you return to class
* A missed assessment will need to be scheduled for a make-up within one week of the quiz
* “Do Nows” will be completed at the start of every class and handed in on a weekly basis. You will receive a grade each quarter for your participation in these bell ringers
* You should be checking Rediker on a weekly basis to keep up with your grades and missing assignments.

**Grading Breakdown:**

* Assessment (quizzes and tests) - 40%
* Classwork (completed in class) - 25%
* Laboratory write-ups and projects - 25%
* Homework - 10%

**Gradebook Codes**

* *ABSENT* = absent (either on the day assigned or the day turned it; the assignment is not counted in the gradebook yet—the assignment still needs to be handed in!!)
* *MISSING* = missing assignment (counted as a zero in the gradebook)
* *X* = excused. You do not have to complete this assignment

