



August 2017

Dear Parent or Guardian,

I want to welcome you and your student to the 2017-18 school year and to one of our newest course selections, ***Forensic Science***. To help you understand what the class will be doing this year, I am providing the course description and the learning objective for this course:

Course Description

This one year elective course provides an introduction to the topics of criminology within the field of forensic science. Study includes the applications of concepts from the areas of biology, chemistry, physics and geology to analyze and investigate evidence that may be discovered in a criminal investigation. Classroom activities include experiments, projects, case studies and the incorporation of technology.

Introduction to forensic investigation includes crime scene techniques, firearms, arson and explosives, entomology, blood spatter, blood chemistry, pathology, toxicology, anthropology, soils, botany, trace evidence, computer crime, behavioral analysis, courtroom activities and new trends in forensic investigations.

Learning Objective

Forensic science is the application of science that can be applied as inquiry. In criminal cases, forensic science is used to examine physical evidence that can be used to establish connections between suspects, events and circumstances. The application of the scientific method is central to this course - observation, collection and classification of data, examining relationships, forming and testing hypotheses and making conclusions based on evidence. The diverse characteristics of a crime scene provide that forensic science is a combination of all branches of science. Students will use scientific techniques and technology in order to solve forensic investigations.

Research, case studies and career exploration are also components of this course. The ultimate goal is to provide the students with an overall view of this field of science which has been subject to increased interest and popularity in recent years.

The syllabus for the course has also been attached for your review. Forensic Science is a fascinating discipline that draws on many pure sciences to produce methods and processes to aid criminal enquiry and investigation that are constantly evolving.

The processes are scientific. The subject matter, by its very nature, often relates to crimes that challenge conventional societal behaviors and involve sexual and or violent acts.

Great care will be taken to discuss the subject matter in an objective and non-dramatic manner. Our goal is to identify the scientific methods and enquiries that lead to sound, unbiased evidence.

Please talk to your student about the class. This class will demystify media fictions and place forensic scientific enquiry in its true context. The more you talk to your student about these connections, the more meaningful the class experience will be.

Please sign and return the parent acknowledgement form indicating your receipt of this letter and the attached syllabus.

Respectfully,

Coach Dangelmaier
AHS CTE and Science Dept Teacher
Forensic Science
Room B211
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Please detach and return the following acknowledgement:

I have received and read the syllabus for this course.

Please print student's full name.....

Parent's/Guardian's signature.....

Student's signature.....

Date.....