

Exploring Technology 8

Course Description:

Exploring Technology is a comprehensive, action-based, course that introduces students to technology and its impact on society. Students will develop problem solving skills, improve awareness for College & Career Readiness (CCR), and build understanding of the relationship between science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Emphasis is placed on broad exploration in cooperative activities rather than individual skill development and projects. Students will explore Engineering and at least three of the following seven technology areas: 1) agriculture & biotechnology, 2) construction, 3) energy & power, 4) information & communication, 5) manufacturing, 6) medical, and 7) transportation.

Assignments:

Assignments will be due at the beginning of class and must be complete to receive credit. You will have very little homework in this class as long as the time given in class is used wisely. The key to earning a good grade in this class is to be present in class each day and to keep up with the pace of the class. There will be no penalty for turning in late assignments but it is well worth the effort to turn them in on time. All assignments are due 1 week before the end of the term

You are responsible to keep all of your returned assignments in a folder or notebook.

Make-up work:

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check with me before class to see what you have missed. All make-up work will be due the class period following the day you return.

Hall Pass:

You will be given two Hall Passes. Any unused passes can be turned in for 10 points of extra credit each. Using the hall pass is a privilege, not a right. You will not be allowed to leave class to get assignments or books that you have forgotten.

Keeping your Hall pass is your responsibility. You must have your pass in order to use it.

Extra Credit:

Extra Credit will be given for extra work. Although not guaranteed, there is generally opportunity for extra credit each term. Extra credit will **only** be available to those who have turned in each assignment (i.e. you must have a score for each assignment). All extra credit will be due one week before the end of the term.

Preparation:

It is your responsibility to come to class with a writing utensil, notebook, and anything else you are asked to bring each day. You will not be allowed to return to your locker to get forgotten assignments, etc. It is highly recommended that each student have their own safety glasses, but not required.

Safety:

Safety requirements will be studied extensively in class. Students will be required to follow all safety procedures while in the shop area. Failure to follow the outlined safety requirements will result in disciplinary action. No student will be allowed to use shop equipment unless he or she passes the required safety tests. Before entering the shop, students must have eye and ear protection on.

Attendance:

(Refer to school's attendance policy for general attendance procedures.)

Tests / Quizzes:

If you are going to be absent on test day, you or one of your parents must make contact with me before test time to make arrangements to take your test at another time. Test make up must be completed within one week of the time when the test is given. All make-up work should be done after school or during Pride Time.

Behavior:

Common courtesy and kindness for everyone are expected in this class at all times. Any behavior that takes away from learning will not be tolerated. Honesty and integrity are necessary in this class. Anyone who attempts to cheat will receive a zero on the assignment without the opportunity to make it up.

Behavior is also how you act when the teacher is not looking. We have had many cases of vandalism in the shop area during class. Please maintain such integrity and respect for the awesome equipment that we have at Willowcreek. There will be a minimum of **\$50.00 fine** for any individual who does not comply and cannot treat the shop area with respect.

Grade Scale:

A	94%-100%	C	73%-75%
A-	90%-93%	C-	70%-72%
B+	86%-89%	D+	66%-69%
B	82%-85%	D	63%-65%
B-	79%-81%	D-	60%-62%
C+	76%-78%	F	0-59%

Fees:

As a part of the registration process for this class a registration fee was paid. The money from the registration is used to maintain the equipment and buy items that are difficult to quantify, such as printer ink and glue.

****No teacher can or will accept money**** All fees must be paid to the financial secretary.

Alpine Foundation:

As teachers we are always in need if assistance in our classes. One of the biggest obstacles we face is finding a way to financially afford to provide the students with the best possible education. I would like to enlist your help as a parent. The Alpine District Foundation is a charity that works closely with the district to provide an avenue where the community can chip in. They are organized so that you can make a donation and specifically indicate where that donation goes, right down to the classroom teacher. Please consider this opportunity and visit the Alpine Foundation webpage and donate to your child's classroom: <http://foundation.alpineschools.org/>

Walkaways:

This course will consist of many small skill assessments. These assessments will be used to determine if the student has achieved a good basic understanding of the concepts discussed in class. Students are expected to pass each walkaway with an 80% or better. Students will take the walkaways during class time on the original day only. Students will be allowed to retake the walkaway, following some remediation, until the 80% mastery has been achieved. Retakes will only be allowed before/after school or during Pride time. If a student passes all of the walkaways with and 80% or better, a grade of at least a D- is guaranteed at the end of the term.

Signature Page:

Please review this disclosure document with your parent or guardian and complete the signature form on my website: <http://www.mralder.com/disclosure-docs.html>