

Honors Physics: Classroom Management

General

This class will be based on a model called “the Learner-Active, Technology Infused” Classroom or “LATI” for short. The LATI model has the primary goal of enabling the students to take increasing responsibility for managing their own learning, both academically and socially. That is students, are responsible for both helping each other learn the material and for monitoring their own and each other’s behavior.

Student Behavior

To this end, the class (and individual students) will:

- 1) establish standards of conduct and expectations for all students
- 2) monitor his/her own behavior as well as that of his/her peers.
- 3) be responsible for the smooth operation of classroom routines and procedures, including the effective use of time and materials.
- 4) be responsible for establishing a strong learning environment by taking pride in their work, initiating improvements to their work, and holding themselves and others to the highest standards.

Daily Routine

The majority of the daily class time will be in groups. Each group will designate a manager, a tracker/checker, a communicator, and a recorder/equipment manager. These roles will rotate every two weeks.

Tracker/checkers and managers will monitor and evaluate their group, producing a weekly report detailing how well each member of the group worked during that week. This includes preparation, homework/task completed, and number of times off task for each student in the group. This report will determine the participation grade for each student.

Individual students will submit a self – assessment each cycle discussing their performance in class and how they have improved/progressed during the cycle. These self – assessments will count as part of the midterm and final exam grades.

Within each group, each student will schedule his/her activities for the day on a schedule blank. These will include whole group, paired and individual activities. The teacher will also provide a daily schedule indicating whole class activities (called BENCHMARK LESSONS) and MINI-LESSONS, single topic reviews intended only for students who need or desire extra help. In addition to schedule blanks, other handouts will include:

- 1) “Activity sheets”, listing all the activities included in the topic – group, individual, and homework;
- 2) Worksheets with questions and problems
- 3) “How-To” sheets giving step-by-step directions for using equipment and software

Finally, all work will include extensive use of computers for data gathering and analysis, research (Internet), and production of final products.

In addition, students will be expected to stay informed of class activities and assignments through the school – based “**e – board**”.