**Honors Chemistry

Course Description:**

Code: S561 Full Year (10-12) (1 credit) (rank weight 1.04)

Prerequisite: Honors Biology (average of 85% or better) or Regents Biology (average of 90%
or better). Honors Geometry (average of 85% or better) or Geometry (average of 90% or better)
and concurrently enrolled in Honors Algebra 2

*(See WCSD Website/Parent Resources/High School Course Handbook for detailed syllabus)*

**TEXTBOOK:** Davis, Raymond E. *Modern Chemistry.* Orlando: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2009.

Honors Chemistry is an enriched first year course which covers the fundamental topics of chemistry in sufficient depth to prepare students for both the SAT II and NYS Regents Exams.

Some of the topics included are: chemical bonding, acids and bases, the gas laws, stoichiometry, kinetics, equilibrium, and electrochemistry. The objectives of this course are to have students attain a strong understanding of chemical principles, competence in solving complex chemical problems and to develop laboratory skills which are suitable for a chemistry lab.

**The Goals of this Course:**

1.     To learn about chemical principles.

2.     To prepare for the SAT II in Chemistry and the NYS Chemistry Regents Exam.

3.     To improve laboratory techniques.

4.     To develop and enhance problem solving techniques.

**Grading:**

All tests, quizzes, homework and labs are assigned a certain number of points. Each student’s grade is calculated by dividing the number of points earned by the number of points possible. The percentage of points for each quarter breaks down to **approximately**: tests and quizzes - 75%, labs - 15%, homework - 10%.
The final average will be an average of four marking periods and the final exam.

1.     **Tests** - Major unit exams may be announced in advance. They are usually given at the completion of each major unit.

2.     **Quizzes** - Quizzes may be based on homework, class work and lab work. Quizzes may or may not be announced in advance.

3.     **Labs** - Each student must submit a lab report for each laboratory exercise done in class. These reports will be graded. The requirements for lab reports are described on each handout.

4.     **Homework** - Homework will be assigned daily. All homework is due the day of that week’s test unless otherwise specified.

5.     **Class work** - Class work is not directly graded, but since quizzes are based on class discussion, lab work, and notes taken in class, the quiz grade may reflect the work done in class.

**Requirements:**

1.     Each student should have a separate notebook for chemistry. A three ring binder or a 5 subject notebook is suggested. It is also recommended that each student have a **scientific calculator** which should be brought to class each day.

2.     Students are expected to come to class physically and mentally prepared to work. **This includes arriving on time with notebooks, pens, pencils and calculator.**

3.     Each student is required to prepare a written lab report for each laboratory exercise.
**\*\*Any student that does not complete the required number of lab hours will be barred from taking the NYS Regents Exam in June.\*\**"All students in a Regents science course must complete the laboratory requirement of 1200 minutes (20 hours) of satisfactory lab work prior to entry into the Science Regents Exam. A student not in compliance with the lab requirement will not receive a passing grade for the course and will be barred from the Regents exam."***

4.     It is recommended that each student spend time each day studying chemistry. This may include reviewing notes, solving problems or reading the textbook. Remember, it is easier to keep up than to catch up!

5.     Students are responsible for all work missed during absences. This includes labs. Work should be made up within the same number of days returned as was the absence period. Any work not made up may result in a zero for that work.

6.    Be sure to ask questions when you don’t understand something - you are probably not alone! I am here to help.

**Parent Contact**:

Normally parent contact is accomplished through the usual channels, the mid-quarter progress reports and the quarterly report cards. The best way to contact me is by e-mail at *james.cancellari@wcsdny.org*

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Student Name (print) Date

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Student’s Signature Parent/Guardian Signature