**WILLIAMSBURG HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN**

Course: Living Environment

Teacher: Ms. Taylor

Email: TAYLOR@whsad.org

Room: 216

**Course Description:**

**Living Environment** is a Regents biology course with a 1200-minute laboratory requirement. As we learn about our living world, we will be doing many hands on and creative activities. The course is designed to prepare students directly for a state Regents examination, and successful passing is a requirement for graduation.

**Materials:** Pocket folder (you will receive daily worksheets), writing utensils

**Grading Policy:**

**Exams**- 50%

**Labs**- 25%

**Quizzes, homework, in-class work**- 25%

**Exams (50%):**

Approximately 3 comprehensive exams will be given quarterly. Students will be asked a variety of questions including multiple choice, fill in the blank, labeling, and short answer. Exams will cover content from both the lecture and the laboratories. Exams will be designed to prepare students for the regents. **Students will be able to retake exams (in alternative form) as many times as they like to receive full credit.** The important thing is mastery of content, and if a student is willing to put in the effort to improve their test score, they will be credited.

**Labs and Projects (25%):**

Living Environment is a Regents biology course with a 1200-minute laboratory requirement. We will be doing approximately 30 labs this year. State labs must be completed in order for students to be eligible for the regents. All labs must be turned in within 1 week in order to receive full credit. Late labs will receive a maximum reduced score of 80%. Students who fail to complete labs within 1 week will be mandated to attend homework club during lunch hours to complete missing work.

**Quizzes, homework, in-class work (25%):**

**Quizzes** may be announced in advanced and may be used instead of an exam for some chapters.

**Homework** is to be taken out at the beginning of class and will be either be given credit for being complete/incomplete, or, will be collected and graded accordingly.

Every class will begin with a **DO NOW.** The DO NOW will be checked for completion and counted as a classwork grade. All other assignments to be counted as “class work” will be announced by Ms. Taylor.

**Classroom Expectations:** Everyday that you walk into Living Environment class, YOU ARE a scientist. Be prepared to think creatively and learn actively. Scientific thinking applies to all aspects of life, and you will be expected to work hard in Ms. Taylor’s class. Although we will be having fun on a daily basis, the fact that you LEARN is a serious matter. You are expected to be respectful towards Ms. Taylor, your classmates, and the classroom. **This includes but is not limited to:** Not talking out of turn, being kind and cooperative with classmates, and cleaning up after yourselves.