

# Physical Science at the Middle Level

## Course Description:

*Physical Science is the introductory course in the High School science program. Students enrolled in Physical Science will explore themes related to matter, energy, and the universe. Physics topics covered include mechanics, kinematics, heat, energy, electricity, and waves. Chemistry topics covered include atomic structure, physical and chemical properties/changes, classification of matter, bonding, nomenclature, conservation of mass and matter, and nuclear properties/changes. Universe concepts include galaxy and star formation, stellar evolution, and the Big Bang Theory.*

## Course Sequences at Middle School Level starting in the 2015-2016 School Year



\* Outside work will be required to ensure any missed content from 8th Grade Science is mastered

## Requirements to take Physical Science at Middle School Level

- Enrolled in Algebra or Geometry during the 8th Grade year. Math is an integral part of the Physical Science curriculum and is a requirement for entry into this course. Students must have Mr. Darfus or Mrs. Schneider for math in 7th grade.
- Classroom Aptitude (*Overall classroom performance and work ethic*)
  - All students meeting the above criteria can register online April 10 - May 1 by filling out the Google Form found on both the Hastings and Jones Middle School Webpages.
    - Any requests for placement outside of the outlined pathway will need to follow the district's acceleration policy.

## Earning High School Credit in Middle School:

**District Policy:** *Students successfully completing high school courses in middle school, will be granted one high school unit of credit for each course completed. Credit will be awarded and calculated in cumulative grade point average upon entrance to the high school. Students may elect to retake the course at the high school. If a course is retaken, the grade earned in middle school will be removed from the transcript and from the calculation of the GPA and will be replaced by the grade earned at the high school.*

**State Testing:** At the current time, students will be required to take the performance-based assessment and end-of-course exam for Physical Science during their 8th grade year in lieu of the Science 8 state assessments.