**Physics**

**Vista PEAK Preparatory 2016-2017**

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| Dr. Palaich Heffern | **Classrooms:** |
| **E-mail:** sepalaich@aps.k12.co.us | 1604 (2nd and 5th Period) |
| **Phone:** 303-340-0121 | 1603 (3rd and 4th Period) |
| **Office:** 1519 | 1521 (7th Period) |
| **Website:** http://www.palaich.net/classes/physics |

Welcome to Physics, I look forward to our year together! The attendance, tardy, behavior, food, cell phone, lab notebook and grading policies to be used in class this year are outlined below.

**Course Description:**

Students will learn the fundamentals of physics including: forces and motion, Newton’s laws of motion, law of conservation of energy, power and work, electricity, and the properties of light and sound.

**Attendance:**

Learning in a science classroom is very hands on, so missing a day of class means you miss the opportunity to conduct experiments. We will also go over most assignments in depth in class and have opportunities for you to start and complete homework assignments. If you attend every class, you will likely not have much homework left to do outside of class. Please contact me ahead of time if you know you will have an excused absence so we can plan accordingly.

**Tardy:**

Vista PEAK has its own tardy rules, which will be followed. On the third tardy we will have a conversation about ways to improve your timeliness and I will call or message home to your parents or guardians. Please try to be on time and let me know if you’re coming from across the campus or from gym.

**Food and Drink:**

**Absolutely no food** is allowed in my science classrooms. Eating is dangerous in these rooms and you will be asked to put food away or throw it away. Please plan accordingly. No beverages except water are allowed. Water must be in a water bottle with a good seal. Please contact me if you have a severe medical condition that requires different accomodations.

**Cell Phones:**

**Cell phones are not allowed** to be out or used in class without explicit permission. Please store cell phones in your backpack or locker. The cell phone sign on my cart will tell you if cell phones are allowed. No ear buds are allowed during labs or lectures. If there is class time to work on assignments, I may give you permission to listen to music. Otherwise, please turn off your music and put away your headphones. If you violate these rules you will be asked to put your cell phone into the cell phone box for safe keeping until the end of the period.

**Lab Notebooks:**

Each student will have a binder and notebook devoted only to physics. Notes from class, labs and lab write-ups will be recorded in the notebook and extra papers placed in the binder. Students are expected to date every page and should prepared to turn their binder in for a notebook grade at any moment in time.

**Grading:**

At Vista PEAK grading falls under three categories: work habits (10%), formative (30%) and summative (60%). Lab work, Do Nows and daily class participation will score in the work habits portion. Homework assignments, class worksheets and small class presentations will score in the formative category. All final exams and major projects are summative (60%).

We use a Standards Referenced Grading System with the following grades given in class: A (4 pts) ,P (3 pts), PP (2 pts), U (1 pt) and 0 pts. These grades are translated to a percentage and put on a traditional grading system for all in-progress and final grades using the following system: A = 75-100%, B = 62.5-74.9%, C = 50%-62.4%, D = 25-49.9% and F is below 25%.

Class worksheets and homework assignments should be turned in on time (by the beginning of the period unless otherwise stated). Every day an assignment is late, you will lose half a letter grade off of your score. If you have an excused absence, we can arrange an alternative due date, but the same policy will apply.

**If and only if you turn your work in on time, you will be allowed to redo it once for a higher grade any time before the end of the quarter**. You need to have tried to do the work; I will not accept blank or brief answers as “turned in on time.” Always show your work and never erase. I try to give partial credit whenever I can and your previous may give you more points.

**Parent/Guardian Verification:**

Please read over these expectations with your parent or guardian and return this piece of paper signed to me by Friday August 12th, 2016.

I have carefully read the expectations and policies of this course and agree to support the goals and initiatives of the course. I will show up, speak up, stand up and go further than I ever thought possible.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(print) Grade \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (print)

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

Student E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_