Course Description
Eighth Grade Science classes may include a variety of instructional formats ranging from hands on labs to lecture and discussion. Frequently students will be working cooperatively to accomplish larger projects. Occasionally supplemental videos will be used to enhance the learning experience. Students may be expected to keep a notebook with notes and vocabulary and participation in class activities is vital to your student’s success.

Relevance
Science is the development of answers to questions through the use of observation, experimentation, and tested truths. Kenosha Unified 8th grade students will practice the skills required to open the door to the world of scientific research.

Course Standards
Science Connections
Nature of Scientific Process and Knowledge
Science Inquiry
Physical Science
Earth Science
Life Science
Science Applications
Science in Social and Personal Perspectives

Most essential benchmarks may be viewed at: www.kusd.edu.

Lifelong Learning Standards
Knowledgeable person
Complex thinker
Effective communicator
Self-directed learner
Quality producer
Contributing citizen

Lifelong learning benchmarks may be viewed at: www.kusd.edu.

Board-Approved Instructional Materials
Holt Science and Technology
Short Courses
Introduction to Science
Cells, Heredity, and Classification
Electricity and Magnetism
Sound and Light

J. Astronomy
L. Interactions of matter

Revised 08 8/25/
Course Outline

Introduction to Science
  Measurement
  Scientific Method
  Scientific Inquiry
  Data Analysis

Cells, Heredity, and Classification
  Basic units of Life
  Cells in Action
  Heredity
  Evolution of Living Things
  History of Life

Electricity and Magnetism
  Electricity
  Electromagnetism

Sound and Light
  Waves
  Sound
  Light

Astronomy
  Space
  Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe
  Solar System
  Planets

Interactions of Matter
  Chemical Bonding
  Chemical Reactions
  Chemical Compounds

Parents as Partners
By using the Holt Website at www.go.hrw.com parents can find additional activities and resources to be used at home to help students understand the scientific topics explored in the classroom. For those without home web access, the Holt One Stop CD is available at your child’s school.
**Methods of Assessment**
Assessments will be given in a variety of formats, which include but are not limited to: unit tests, labs, quizzes, and projects.

**Board-Approved Grading Scale**
Excerpts taken from School Board Rule 6452

GRADING SCALE
A+=98-100 percent
A=93-97 percent
A-=90-92 percent
B+=86-89 percent
B=83-85 percent
B-=80-82 percent
C+=76-79 percent
C=73-75 percent
C-=70-72 percent
D+=66-69 percent
D=63-65 percent
D-=60-62 percent
F=0-59 percent

**Late Work Policy**
If an assignment is one day late, a 10% penalty will be applied. If an assignment is turned in two days late, a 15% penalty will be applied. If an assignment is three days late, a 20% penalty will be applied. After three days, the assignment will no longer be accepted for credit.

**Absent Work Policy**
Students who are absent from school have the responsibility of collecting missed assignments from each teacher. Students have two days for each day absent to turn in work for full credit. Students that have to be absent for an extended period of time should make arrangements with the teacher to complete missing work as quickly as possible.