



Technology of Science

Pine Middle School

2011 - 2012

Smart Lab Facilitator: Ms. Young

School Phone: 689-2550, room 108

E-Mail: myoung@washoeschools.net

Website: www.washoe.k12.nv.us/pine or www.pinetechofscience.weebly.com

Lab Fee: \$5.00 (This covers the basic consumable supplies for the lab such as: printer toner, ink, glue, batteries, and all the other little items that are used in the lab.)

Course Description:

Technology of Science is a semester long elective class provide to both 7th and 8th grade students at Pine Middle School. The Pine Middle School Math and Science Technology SmartLab is a **state-of-the-art learning environment** designed to **empower self-directed learners** with the tools, resources, simulation, and freedom necessary to foster the development of their creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork skills.

SmartLab Learning Priorities:

- Problem-solving and Creativity
- Collaboration and Teamwork
- Project Planning and Time Management
- Documentation of Learning
- Effective Presentation
- Technical Skills and Knowledge

Course Schedule:

Students will select and engage in one of the following learning experiences approximately every two weeks throughout course.

Computer Animation and Simulations	Robotics and Automation	Multimedia including: Music & Video
Electrical and Pneumatic Circuits	Graphic Design	Materials and Structure Testing
Mechanical Systems Construction	Desktop Publishing	

Primary Methods of Instruction

Students work with a partner on a series of rigorous hands-on engagements lasting approximately two weeks each. They will be required to read and research a variety of instructional materials in order to accomplish their learning objectives. Each Student is responsible for keeping a Daily On-Line Record of what they are learning, what they accomplished, the challenges they encountered, and how they solved them. Students will quickly learn how to use digital cameras to aid them in documenting their learning experiences. They will use these pictures and short movie clips to create professional looking multimedia presentations that they and their partner will present to the class.

What to Expect in Tech of Science

- You will be working with a partner, but your grade will also be based on individual participation.
- You and your partner will rotate stations about every two weeks.
- Digital cameras will be used to document your progress.
- You and your partner will deliver oral, multimedia presentations to the class throughout the semester.
- At the end of each learning engagement, each individual must complete the self-evaluation form.
- You will be expected to keep daily notes in the online project management system.
- You will be using PowerPoint to create an electronic portfolio, which will be presented to the class at the end of the semester.

Internet Usage

You must have an Internet use agreement signed by you and your parent/guardian on file in the office before you will be allowed on the Internet. If an additional form is needed, please see me.

Failure to cheerfully follow and apply these principles or any of the facilitator's instructions may result in being withdrawn from the course and permanent loss of access to the TechLab resources.

Grading

Parents will be informed of their child's progress through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Grades are based on the following weighted categories.

Daily Rewards <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participation, Productivity, Daily Notes	25%
Project Plans	25%
Power Points and Presentations	50%

In the event of unsatisfactory performance, notices will be sent mid-quarter; official report cards will be distributed quarterly.

Student Assistance

If additional time is required to meet course objectives, students will be offered extra access to the SmartLab during lunch and/or after school. Arrangements for additional time must be made by appointment through Ms. Young.

Required Materials

Students will need to arrive DAILY with their:

- School agenda/planner
- Pencils

Parental Assistance

Student Planners:

- Parents are to check their child's agenda/planner on a regular basis to stay informed of class assignments and instruction.
- Students will make daily entries into their planner showing objectives, homework, due dates, test days, holidays, and school events. Using the planner appropriately reinforces accountability and will result in individual and group success.
- The planner provides daily opportunities for parent/teacher communication.
- Planner checks will be conducted in individual classes on a regular basis. Although planner checks can affect a student's work ethic grade, they will not be used as an overall academic grade. Students who are absent when planner checks are conducted will be provided the opportunity to make up the checks.
- Replacement Planners may be purchased for \$2.00 in the main office throughout the school year.

Please sign and return this page to Ms. Young by Due Date: _____

Student Name: _____

Period: _____

We (Student & Parent/Guardian) have read and understand the information in this disclosure. We know that if we have any further questions, we can contact Ms. Young by calling **689-2550** (room 108) or by emailing her at **myoung@washoeschools.net**. We also understand that this class is an activity-based learning experience, which means that on-time attendance and productive participation are critically important to being successful. Pine Middle School attendance/tardy policies are enforced.

We also understand that the equipment in the SmartLab is small, fragile, and/or in some cases very expensive. If by some chance the equipment is lost, broken, or damaged due to inappropriate behavior and/or negligence; we will be responsible for repair or replacement costs.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Date

Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

Name: _____

Name: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

Work Phone #: _____

Work Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Internet Usage Agreement: (See Attached Form)

Initial Below

[_____] Allow My Student To Use The Internet At School

[_____] Do Not Allow My Student To Use The Internet At School

Reminder: Please pay the \$5.00 lab fee as soon as possible.