AP Biology ~ Summer Assignment & Course Reading Assignments

To all AP Biology Students and their Parents:

Welcome to Advanced Placement Biology. I have put together this AP Biology Course Outline to help guide you through what will be a very challenging, yet rewarding, course. AP Biology is an extremely self-directed class that will require time management and organizational skills from everyone. We will be covering most of the material in a college-level textbook and we will be doing 12, in-depth, labs over the course of the year.

What we have ahead of us is a demanding task. The course description, as set forth in the AP course handbook states: The AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course taken by biology majors during their first year. As a consequence, we will be covering, on average, a chapter a week (sometimes more) out of a college-level textbook for the entire year. The end result will be a much deeper knowledge of biology and (hopefully) a passing score on the AP Biology exam, which might lead to receiving college credit for all of your hard work.

Please understand that YOU, way more than I, will determine your success in this course. The course goes at a rapid pace for the whole year and nothing less than your full attention will be needed to keep your head above water.

I expect that all of you will have all of the required materials (see AP Biology Syllabus) on the first day of class and that these materials will be brought to class daily. Please keep the AP Biology textbook that was assigned to you at home in a safe location. You should be reading the AP Biology text book nightly so I do not expect you to carry it to and from school every day. If a textbook is required for a lesson at school, then I will provide you with one.

Below you will find the AP Biology Summer Assignment. To complete this year’s assignment, you will need to access the AP Biology textbook from my web page under AP Biology summer assignment. The AP Biology Summer Assignment is due the first day of class. In addition to the Chapter 1 and 2 written work, you should ALSO read the assigned chapters for Big Idea 1. You should be ready to discuss the information in these chapters on the first day of class.

If you have any questions about the AP Biology course, then please come by my room (213 or 215) or email me at skiff@thompsonpublicschools.org. I am grateful for the opportunity to be your instructor and am looking forward to working with each of you next year as we explore the dynamic world in which we live. ~ Mrs. S. Kiff

Summer Assignment ~ The AP Biology Summer Assignment should be ORIGINAL work and handwritten. This assignment is due at the start of class on the ﬁrst day of class (August).

Read ~ The following Chapters below. There are a myriad of approaches to learning and you will need to develop your own strategies to master the concepts and content of this course. One requirement for success is to be an active learner. Reading your text in a rush, or in a semiconscious daze, does not constitute time studying. The textbook does an excellent job of presenting the material needed to be successful in AP Biology. When you are reading the assigned chapters, please take advantage of all that the textbook has to offer. Before reading a chapter, familiarize yourself with the Key Concepts of that chapter. As you read the chapter material, take time to look at the ﬁgures and tables presented in the text. Read the captions that accompany the ﬁgures and tables and allow yourself the time you need to digest the information presented. At the end of each section, check your current understanding of the material you just read by answering the Concept Check questions. At the end of each chapter, there is a Summary of Key Concepts. Read this summary BEFORE you read the chapter to prepare yourself mentally for the concepts that will be presented in the chapter. Then, read the Summary of Key Concepts AFTER completing the chapter to review what you have just read.

AP Biology Summer Assignment & Course Reading Assignments Located online at my Website- AP biology, Summer Assignment

1. Read Chapter 1 ~ Introduction: Study of Life, after you have read Chapter 1, complete the following questions on pages 30-32: • For full credit, each response should include the correct answer to the question, be it a letter choice, written explanation, or labeled drawing and **the page number of the text book that the response was found**. • Critical Thinking Questions - All written responses should be in a well-constructed paragraph that includes a restatement of the question you are answering in the paragraph’s introduction. Please proof read your work! • Please proof read your work!

2. Read Chapter 2 ~ The Chemistry of Life, after you have read Chapter 2, complete the following questions on page 63+64: • (see above for requirements) • Critical Thinking Questions (see above for requirements)

3. Read Chapter 3 ~ Biological Molecules, after you have read Chapter 3, complete the following questions on page 100+101: • (see above for requirements) • Critical Thinking Questions (see above for requirements)

4. Read Chapter 6 ~ Metabolism, after you have read Chapter 6, complete the following questions on page 189+190: • (see above for requirements) • Critical Thinking Questions (see above for requirements)