

Aug. 22, 2016

Dear Student, Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Welcome back to school! I want to take this opportunity to provide some information about the upcoming year. My name is John Sudbury, and I am in my 13th year as a science teacher, and my 10th year at LHS. I have a Bachelors degree in Science Education and a Master's degree in Education. I am excited to have the opportunity to share the interesting field of chemistry with all of you.

Chemistry involves lots of hands-on work through the labs. We will work in groups often; however, each student must also complete at least many individual assignments during the semester. We will develop skills such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and teamwork while learning about topics in chemistry. These skills are vital in both college and today's workplace. My goal is to help prepare students for college and/or the workplace.

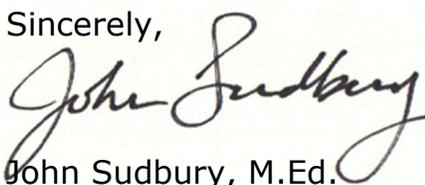
Attached to this letter are the lab safety contract and the student/parent information sheet (which includes the syllabus acknowledgement and signature page). Please review them so that you are aware of the course requirements and my expectations. Your signature on the student/parent information sheet is an acknowledgement that you have read and understand the syllabus.

Chemistry is a challenging and rigorous course that will require hard work and dedication. Chemistry will make you think about the natural world around you. Students should arrive in class with an open mind and a positive attitude: **"I can do this!"** As your teacher, I commit to providing an environment where you can be successful. My chemistry classroom is a flipped classroom, which may be a new experience for many of you. In the flipped class model, students do the "school work" at home and the "homework" at school. This means that I have taken my lectures and produced them as videos that students watch on their iPads. When students arrive in class, they have arrived with previous knowledge and we can then apply that knowledge on an guided or independent practice assignment or lab activity. Since I am not lecturing to all the students at once, I can give more time and attention to helping individuals or groups that need the help.

The majority of the material for my course will be delivered by one of two ways. The primary delivery of my material will be through an iTunesU course the students will download this week on their iPads. *(Parents are welcome to join the course as well.)* Many of the same videos and materials are also available on www.sudburyflipped.com.

Parents/Guardians, if you have any questions or concerns at all any time throughout the year, please call me, email me, or send me a note with your student. I look forward to an excellent school year.

Sincerely,



John Sudbury, M.Ed.

JohnSudbury@misdmail.org