

Dear Parent,

Your child is enrolled in my Chemistry course for the 2011 – 2012 school year.

I maintain an Internet web site as a resource for my students and their parents. At the site you will find the assignment calendar, a grade database, practice activities, as well as all of the notes, Powerpoints, labs and review sheets. My web site address is:

**www.sciencegeek.net**

- The grade database will provide you with an up-to-date, complete report on scores for all graded assignments, as well as the overall grade in the class. The grade database requires the use of the student's ID number as the user ID and the last name as the password. Grades are updated every week, usually on Friday.
- An email list, to which you can subscribe at the site, will allow you to receive emails from the instructor when grades are updated, and to inform you of important upcoming assignments and deadlines.

Student achievement of the standards will be assessed primarily through benchmark quizzes. No score is given to a student on a benchmark until the student passes the quiz with a score of 75% or better. The student may retake the benchmark as many times as necessary until the end of the following Unit or the end of the semester, whichever comes first. After the deadline, the benchmark cannot be retaken, and the score of zero becomes permanent. Students should attend office hours to retake benchmarks, or to get help in preparing for a failed benchmark.

Unit tests may be retaken once each, prior to the administration of the following unit test. However, the grade earned on the makeup will be the grade of record, so it is possible to LOSE points by doing a retake of a unit test.

Quarter and semester grades will be based on a percentage of the total points possible in the class up to that time:

100% - 90% = A || 89.9% - 80% = B || 79.9% - 70% = C || 69.9% - 60% = D || Below 60% = F

Sources of points include: Chapter tests, quizzes (including benchmark quizzes) labs, homework, and each semester's VUSD Standardized Final Exam. Grades will be updated and posted regularly so that all students will know their current grade and what assignments they need to make up.

Sincerely,

Andy Allan  
Chemistry Instructor  
El Diamante High School

Please return the signed bottom portion of this letter for my records. Keep the top portion for your reference.

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Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

(Check one)

\_\_\_\_\_ We have Internet access and will be able to monitor the chemistry grades using your website

\_\_\_\_\_ We do not have Internet access

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_