**JJMS Goal:**
Take the time to get to know our students well and use that knowledge to increase student engagement in our classrooms.

**Classroom Mission:**
Students can successfully practice scientific understanding when their critical thinking skills generate claims based upon accurate evidence and reasoning.

**Subject:**
NYS Regents "The Physical Setting - Earth Science"

**Teacher Name:**
Zach Miller

**Curriculum:**
- Size and Shape of the Earth (Latitude and Longitude, Topographic Maps)
- Rocks and Minerals
- The Dynamic Crust (Earthquakes, Volcanos, and Plate Tectonics)
- Surface Processes (Weathering, Erosion (Streams, Glaciers, Groundwater, etc), Deposition, Landscape development)
- Earth's History and the Geologic Column (Age of Earth, Radiometric Dating, Fossils)
- Meteorology (Day to Day Weather, Severe Weather, Forecasting)
- Climate, Climate Change (Global Warming & Climate Change)
- Earth in Space (Seasons, Observation of the Sky, Phases of the Moon, Tides, Time)
- Deep Space Astronomy (Universe, Big Bang Theory, Galaxies, Stars)
- Environmental Issues (Acid Rain, The Ozone “Hole”, Resource Utilization)

This course will have a focus on guided inquiry-based learning (students ‘constructing’ their understanding through careful observation) and interdisciplinary learning (i.e., drawing connections between math and science). The course requires strong ELA, math and visual/spatial skills.

**Grading and Homework:**
Earth Science Trimester grades and assignment grades are calculated as a fraction or total points system: (points earned)/(possible points). If during the marking period a student earns, for instance, 42/45 37/39 23/25 and 54/62, I will add all the points earned (42+37+23+54=156) and divide it by the total possible points (45+39+25+62=171). 156/171 = 0.912, and the grade will be reported as 91%.

As a guide, quizzes and tests are worth approximately 80%, HW is worth approximately 10%, and labs are worth approximately 10% due to assessments and labs varying in point values. Final Course grade is based upon each Trimester valued at 29.629% and the Regents Exam valued at 11.112%.

**Resources:**
- Textbook – Pearson Earth Science by Tarbuck & Lutgens
- “Reviewing Earth Science” Review Book (Student Workbook) by Tom McGuire
- Handouts (class notes/packets)
- Class e-Chalk Webpage / Websites

**Extra Help:**
Thursdays after school 2:50 – 3:25

**Teacher Contact Information:**
Tel: X9670 Email: zmiller@klschools.org Website: eChalk & www.discoverearthscience.com