

Victor High School Science Department

Dear Parent(s)

We are proud of the variety and high quality of the science courses offered at Victor High School. There are many courses offered in the sciences and each student is given the opportunity to choose the area(s) which best meets their needs. There are four Regents Science courses: Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. There are four Advanced Placement courses: A.P. Biology, A.P. Chemistry, A.P. Environmental, and A.P. Physics. We also offer IB Biology and electives in Anatomy, Environmental Science, Forensics, History of the Natural Parks, and Microbiology.

Having elected to pursue an academic course of study in science, it is imperative from the outset that both the student and parents realize the academic responsibilities incurred by this commitment.

The Regents Sciences are laboratory oriented. An essential requirement of the course is the successful completion of written laboratory results. In order to avoid misunderstandings, the laboratory requirement should be clearly understood at the beginning of the year. The following criteria **MUST** be met prior to admission to the Regents exam in June.

Each student in a Regents Science course must complete a minimum of **30 acceptable** periods of laboratory investigation, and have on file at the High School the written reports of these acceptable investigations.

The successful completion of the student's course of study is the goal of the Science Department. For this reason the following points are emphasized:

1. The 30 lab period minimum is the lowest number a teacher may require. Most teachers will conduct more than the minimum. All labs will be graded and the lab average will represent at least 15% of the marking period grade.
2. A student who is legally absent from a laboratory period should make up the assigned laboratory investigation as soon as possible. Some labs are logistically impossible (i.e. setups, chemicals, etc) to maintain for extended periods of time.
3. A student should not put off completion of the labs. All labs **MUST** be completed by the end of the marking period. If **THREE** or more labs are missing at the end of a five or ten week marking period, a grade of 64 or lower will be assigned.
4. June 1st of that academic year is the deadline for completion of the 30-lab requirement. Students deficient in the laboratory requirement by June 1st will **NOT** be allowed to take the June Regents Science Exam.
5. In order for a student to take a Regents Science course during summer school (if it is offered) the laboratory requirement must be met during the regular school year.