

# News from SMART Lab

## **SMART Lab News 11/1/2022**

Hello families! Welcome to a new year in SMART Lab. I am Mrs. Lee and I am happy to say that I am now more familiar with the SMART lab overall, so I will be able to communicate with families more often and send out general information each month.

### **General Information:**

My name is Roawn Lee, and I am a veteran educator who is excited to begin teaching SMART Lab for our 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders. I have high expectations for all our students and will be pushing them to develop 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills such as collaboration, critical thinking, creativity, and communication. This means that they will be writing and presenting along with doing the activities for which SMART Lab is known. For more information, please see the Programs and About sections on the SPLC website. My direct contact information is [rllee@splc-nm.com](mailto:rllee@splc-nm.com).

### **SMART Lab Behavior Expectations:**

When the students are in SMART Lab, they are expected to work and attend to all their required assignments. They are also expected to interact with their partners, classmates, and teacher in a positive, collaborative manner. Students are held accountable individually with a three-reminder system. Once the students have been redirected three times, they begin to owe me time during their lunch or break times. When the students and the class follow all the SMART Lab expectations, they are rewarded with Live School points as well as additional break time. I have attached the SMART Lab behavior matrix to this email.

In addition, during each SMART Lab session, students earn Participation and Effort Points. (10 points for each session in SMART Lab.) If a student is not productive during their SMART Lab time, it will be reflected in this grade.

### **Google Classroom**

As a technology and SMART Lab teacher, I feel it is necessary to model that technology and computers are tools that can be integrated into our daily lives to help us be more efficient. Therefore, almost everything in SMART Lab will be presented through Google Classroom and NOT paper and pencil. This helps students practice their keyboarding skills, understand and manipulate different file types, and learn flexibility in using multiple programs. Additionally, it allows them to complete their assignments at home if they do not do so during class time.

Each grade level has their own SMART Lab Google Classroom. Students know to use their \*\*\*@slc-nm.com username and common password to sign into Chrome/Google Classroom.

Classroom Codes are as follows:

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: po6fy4c

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: b5naudi

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: vblaaly

### **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade SMART Lab time**

The students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade have finished their first SMART Lab project cycle. Each cycle is 4 weeks long with a presentation and reflection essay due at the end of each cycle. For both classes the expectations for these assignments are very clearly spelled out in their Google Classrooms under Classwork (material).

The 7<sup>th</sup> graders' presentations and essays are due by 11/9/22. Most of the students will need to finish this at home, as they did not complete the work during our last lab session on 10/19/22.

The 8<sup>th</sup> graders schedule got a little off due to my absence on 10/26/22. Therefore, their presentations and essays will be due on 11/30/22. They will have an opportunity to work on these during their lab time on 11/2/22 while also beginning their new lab cycle. However, just like the 7<sup>th</sup> graders, most of the students will be completing this assignment at home.

I believe that after experiencing this first Project cycle, the students will have more experience in managing their time, and less work will need to be completed at home. (FYI – These assignments are worth 150 pts!)

### **6th Grade SMART Lab time**

The students in our 6<sup>th</sup> grade SMART Lab sessions have completed their "All About Me" projects where they learned about their learning, personality, growth mindset, and motivation styles. We are beginning their presentations of what they learned about themselves while also moving on to Simple Machines with LEGOS which aligns to 6<sup>th</sup> grade science standards. (Thank you to Jude and Logan who volunteered to present first!) 😊

If your student hasn't completed the "All About Me" assignment, they have access to the Google Classroom outside SMART Lab time, and they can finish the project there.

During the next Lab session, this coming Friday, the students will complete a challenge using LEGOS to create simple machines. I am excited to see what they are going to create.

### **Grades**

Please note that some grades are found in Google Classroom, but ALL grades are found in Power School. Right now, there are several assignments that are in Power School, but are "blank" as I am in the process of grading many projects. *Therefore, grades right now are lower than they will be after grading is completed.*

Thank you for taking the time to read the abundance of information in this newsletter. Future issues will be more concise! 😊

If you have any questions for me, please contact me at my email [ree@splc-nm.com](mailto:ree@splc-nm.com).