FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – PROGRAM PLANNING FOR SCIENCE

Q: What is the difference between Practical, Academic and Honors Biology?

- A: For 9th grade students – ALL students must sign up to take Biology during 10th grade. Below is a chart comparing the difference between practical, academic and honors biology:

Practical Biology	Academic Biology	Honors Biology
Students in this class are guided through the big ideas in biology. Students are not asked to do much independent learning outside of class. Homework typically entails studying for a test or completing classwork. There is a final project but no final exam. The class is typically co-taught.	Students in this class are expected to work independently to construct their own understanding of Biology in and outside of the classroom. There is approximately 30 minutes of homework a night. There is a final exam.	Students in this class are expected to work independently to construct their own understanding of Biology in and outside of the classroom. Assignments and assessments ask students to know a greater level of detail and reach a deeper understanding than in the academic program. There are 30-60 minutes of homework a night. There is a final exam.

Q: Should my son/daughter 'double up?' in science during 10th grade?

- A: A limited number of students should be 'doubling up' in science. Students should 'double up' only if they are an advanced student who wants to take AP in 11th grade or are truly interested in science and want to explore something besides Biology. There is plenty of time to take science in 11th and 12th grade.

Q: Should my son/daughter take chemistry during 10th grade? If so, which level?

- A: The key to chemistry is motivation and mathematics. If students are motivated and want to take chemistry in 10th grade they need to be in Geometry or Alg 2/trig as a pre-requisite and should be achieving a solid grade.

Q: How many science credits are required to graduate?

- A: 3 science credits

Q: For my college-bound student, which science courses should they take before they graduate?

- A: All college-bound students should plan to take Biology, Chemistry & Physics. If they are interested in a career in a science related field, then additional science courses should be completed based on their career interests. This can be accomplished by completing multiple science courses per year.

Q: What science courses are offered at CB East – (all are 2 marking periods, unless otherwise noted):

- AP Biology – 3 MP
- Chemistry – Conceptual, Academic, Honors
- Physics – Academic & Honors
- AP Chemistry – 3 MP
- AP Physics: Newtonian Mechanics
- AP Physics: Electricity and Magnetism
- AP Environmental Science
- Environmental Science – 1 MP
- Organic and Equilibrium Chemistry – 1 MP
- Human Anatomy and Physiology
- Earth science electives:
- Forensic Science
- Astronomy – 1 MP
- Oceanography – 1 MP
- Geology

Q: What are the pre-requisites?

- Academic Chemistry – Alg 2/Trig – C- or better
- Honors Chemistry – Alg 2/Trig – B or better
- Academic Physics – Alg 1
- Honors Physics – Alg 2/Trig
- AP Environmental Science – Academic Biology or Academic Chemistry
- AP Biology – Honors Biology AND Honors Chemistry
- AP Chemistry – Honors Chem B or better, Academic Chem A or better AND Pre Calc/Trig 3 B- or better
- AP Physics: Newtonian Mechanics – Pre-calc
- AP Physics: Electricity & Magnetism – AP Newtonian Mechanics or Honors Physics AND Calc 1
- Forensic Science – Academic Biology C or better