Honors Academy Biology

Mrs. Latona

Yes, I am Mr. Latona’s wife 😊
About Me

• I am a TAR!
• BS in Biology from Oakland University.
• Masters in Teaching from Wayne State University.
• I have been a teacher for 19 years and have taught Biology for the last 16 years.
• I have a 5 year old son, Jack!
We are a learning community

When students collaborate in the learning process, their level of understanding increases.

– Participation is KEY in this process!
– Students are encouraged to discuss concepts and work together!
– Students analyze information in the form of data, graphs and diagrams and draw conclusions.

• This prepares them for SAT.
• This practice increases critical thinking skills.
Will they learn more material?

- We cover the same benchmarks/topics.

- We will learn many of the topics at a deeper level through discussions, articles, research, labs and activities.

- Several units we cover will include the use of mathematical equations to support and enhance their understanding of the concepts.
Big Ideas We Cover

- Structure and Function
- Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
- Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems
- Inheritance and Variation of Traits
- Natural Selection and Evolution
How hard is it?

• I have high expectations!

• The first test, or two, can be difficult for many students.
  – Test contain more multi-level and critical thinking questions.

• Once they realize how high the bar is set, most of them rise to the challenge 😊
Grading Scale

- **65%** Assessments
- **25%** Quizzes/projects
- **10%** Other

- There is a 0.5 grade bump for each semester grade in an honors class.
Thank you!

What questions do you have?