

## Science

At CCMS, our curriculum department focuses on developing students' knowledge and skills in reading, writing, speaking & listening, math computation/literacy, critical thinking, scientific inquiry, engineering and design. We use the [Next Generation Science Standards](#) and [Oregon Assessment Knowledge Standards](#) as our content curriculum and support English Language Arts Common Core through [Literacy in Science and Technical Subjects Standards](#). Common Core [Mathematics Standards](#) are supported in context of science content units (e.g. measurement, decimals, etc). We have a three year implementation plan, and currently the 6th grade receives instruction based on NGSS curriculum, while 7th and 8th are sunsetting curriculum based on Oregon Science Standards. The curriculum resource students use as reference are Prentice Hall texts and various supportive online resources.

Common instructional strategies applied in our curriculum area are visual/graphic organizers, Class Notes, [Interactive Notebooks](#), Collaborative Learning Groups, inquiry based projects and labs. Teachers review data to identify areas to reteach or differentiate and plan instruction and assessments in Professional Learning Teams during weekly late start professional development.

Student assessments provide students and parents information about meeting proficiency standards to chart progress towards high school graduation standards. In our curriculum department, we use work samples, standards based exams, performance-based assessments and interactive web based activities.

Technology is an important tool in teaching and learning. We use Google Classroom, Google Apps, and [Kahoot](#) and [Quizlet](#) Learning Activities. Digital citizenship is also important, and we emphasize safe and secure use, care for equipment, and appropriate use.

Students are consistently exposed to and expected to develop self-management skills through the use of planners and science notebooks to improve time management, responsibility, and organization.

At CCMS, we believe the purpose of homework should be for students to practice skills, review what they have learned in class, and provide staff, students, and parents/guardians with evidence of individual student progress. Examples of homework in our curriculum department are making models, practice problems, notebook review, study guides, and vocabulary review.