

Regents Physics Lab

Royalton Hartland Central Schools

Laboratory experiences are an integral part of the Regents Physics course. In fact, New York State mandates that a student successfully complete a minimum of 30 (1200 minutes of active, engaged, demonstrated in a written report) lab experiences just to qualify to take the Regents final in June. Failure to complete this lab requirement denies a student the opportunity to take the Regents Physics final exam.

Please never lose sight of this fact!

A healthy lab environment is maintained whereby students work in safety and receive their labs at least 2 day before any data is collected to give them ample time to study the purpose and methodology of the lab work. If a student's data collection is somehow flawed or incomplete, numerous opportunities exist to recollect the data under the supervision of a lab instructor who understands that student are not laboratory professionals.

Lab Guidelines

- 1. Labs are to be neat and complete, Typed, with diagrams and graphs (if not typed) done in pencil.**
- 2. All graphs must be done in pencil.**
This allows students to accurately display their data and correct errors neatly. Colored pencils are allowed and enhance a graph's appearance. Students are encouraged to use computers to construct their graphs.
- 3. Each lab is due on a clearly announced due date. Grace period after the due date is offered to students. Late labs are not accepted and cannot count toward the 30 successful lab experiences for Regents exam qualification. This seemingly strict and rigid due date requirement is necessary:**
 - A. To help make students more responsible.**
 - B. Because previously used lab equipment must be taken down and new lab equipment assembled for the upcoming lab. Classroom space is limited.**
 - C. Because lab results are openly discussed and answers freely given on lab due dates. Even the most honorable students would be tempted to conveniently forget their labs, then hear lab results and answers only to fill them in later to complete undone work.**

4. Student absentees will be treated with the proper compassion. A student who is absent for a lab class must report to his lab instructor immediately upon his/her return to school. If they wait 2 or 3 days, students may not be given the chance to make up data collection and consequently will not receive credit for the lab. In all fairness, a student who misses only one day in a lab cycle cannot be granted a due date extension even if the day missed was a scheduled data collection day. The reason again focuses on students responsibility and the opportunities for data collection: after school, during study halls, during assemblies, before school, during other lab classes, etc. During make up sessions, I encourage students to bring a serious minded friend to help them collect data they missed, as many labs are done in groups of two or more students.

If a lab is to be missed because of a scheduled field trip, music lesson, or doctor appointment, students are bound to inform their lab instructor at least one day before the scheduled event (the sooner the better) to make arrangements to hand in, receive, or make up lab work.

*******Parents, please keep me informed of attendance matters so I can show your son/daughter the proper consideration, in keeping with the responsibilities that students have to complete their work on time. Notes from parents are especially effective in notifying lab instructors of laboratory responsibility difficulties and requests for time extensions for past due date labs.**

5. Lab grades count as part of your regular report card grade. There is no separate lab grade on the report card.

Mr. Meyer

Student

(Parent /Guardian)