

# Synergistics Class

Mrs. Dunican (7th & 8th grade)

Mr. Adams (6th grade)

Room 2105

## I. District 123 Vision: "Create a Dream, Make It a Reality"

We are a dynamic and supportive environment that ignites lifelong learners who embrace diversity and contribute positively to our community and global society.

## II. District 123 Mission

The mission of Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123, as a district striving for excellence, is to ensure that each student learns the skills, acquires the knowledge, and develops the behaviors and attitudes necessary to succeed in the future as a caring, responsible, and **productive citizen**; this mission accomplished through a challenging instructional program that is consistent with the state and local goals is provided by a caring and talented staff within a safe and healthy environment in partnership with the entire community.

## III. OLHMS Core Values

At Oak Lawn-Hometown Middle School, we are committed to success by providing an educational experience for each of our students that promotes continual improvement and progress toward our three "**Mustang Musts.**"

**Be Respectful** refers to your ability to treat others the way you expect to be treated.

OLHMS students exhibit **respect** by...

- being kind to your new partner and your teachers
- following classroom expectations
- accepting teachers' decisions
- cooperating and encouraging others

**Be Responsible** refers to your ability to take ownership of your actions. OLHMS students exhibit **responsibility** by...

- being prepared for class with your planner and pen
- following the directions and instructions at your module
- completing tasks as you are directed to
- using equipment properly

**Be Safe** refers to the role you play in maintaining a safe learning environment. OLHMS students exhibit **safety** choices by...

- wearing school ID at all times
- avoiding harmful situations
- honoring personal space and materials

#### IV. Rationale

- Synergistics is a multimedia module-based curriculum that integrates elements of math, technology, science, and language arts. Learning is student directed, hands-on, and cooperative in nature.
- Student-directed learning that is built to empower the students to take ownership of their learning.
- The Synergistic experience is designed to facilitate cooperative learning. Every module is designed to be completed by two students working together as a team.

#### V. Objectives

Because no two students are alike, the Synergistic curriculum is designed to address many different kinds of learning styles. Module content is delivered through text, graphics, video segments, and hands-on activities. All video content is closed-captioned and all written content has audio support. Whether a student is a kinesthetic or visual learner, a low-level reader or a high level reader, Synergistics will address each individual need.

**All 7th Graders will complete the Digital Transportation/Exploration.**

**All 8th graders will complete the Money Management/Career Investigations.**

#### VI. Procedures:

**Group work and individual research presentations as well as hands-on exploration of chosen topics will allow students to learn and teach in the same class.**

#### VII. Expectations of students:

**Students are expected to participate in class discussions, written assignments, and presentations, to the best of their abilities. Various accommodations will be made to promote individual learning styles, academic levels, social interaction, and student engagement.**

- Be courteous and polite to your partner and teacher.
- Operate all computer hardware / software with care.
- Put forth **maximum** effort while in class.
- Use class time wisely and efficiently.
- Be honest and do your own work.
- Follow the three Mustang Musts: Be respectful, Be responsible, Be safe.

### VIII. Expectations of teacher

- Teach students using creative and engaging techniques.
- Differentiate so as to meet all student's needs.
- Provide guidance and feedback.
- Provide remediation opportunities as needed.
- Maintain a pleasant, controlled and safe learning environment.

### IX. Assessment Criteria

Each completed project will be assessed using a rubric for that particular project, ( See rubric example below) .

We are also using a standards based grading scale.

Module Formative Assessment					
D123 Reporting Standard	4 - Exceeding Standards	3 - Meeting Standards	- Sometimes Meeting Standards	1 - Not Yet Meeting Standards	
Subject: Synergistics	420-395 Points	394-315 Points	315-210 Points	209-0 Points	Score out of 420
<b>Skill: Demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes using technology.</b>	The student fully completes the module with a clear understanding of the concepts by creating other products, ie google docs, power point, or charts.	The student completes module as instructed. ie. RCAs, Assessments, Attendance, Participation, and Post Test	The student partially completes the module and has some understanding.	The student did not complete the module and lacks focus and understanding of the module concepts.	
<b>Skill: Successfully use models and simulations to explore complex systems and issues</b>	The student fully completes the module with a clear understanding of the concepts by creating other products, ie google docs, power point, or charts.	The student completes module as instructed. ie. RCAs, Assessments, Attendance, Participation, and Post Test	The student partially completes the module and has some understanding.	The student did not complete the module and lacks focus and understanding of the module concepts.	

### X. Materials

**Websites:** [synergy.pitsco.com](http://synergy.pitsco.com) (each module uses a variety of websites)

**Google classroom**

Chromebook

Pen or Pencil

**Personal Earbuds/ Headphones**

Paper

Portfolios (Teacher will provide)

**XI. Questions, concerns, need help?**

- Please contact Mrs. Mary Ann Dunican if you have any questions, concerns or comments.

Email address: [mdunican@d123.org](mailto:mdunican@d123.org)

Telephone: 1.708.499.6400 ext: 7976