



MESA Elective Class

Mr. Bennett / Mrs. Boyd
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- Goals:**
- Follow MESA-developed guidelines (reinforcing California State Math and Science Standards) to build hands-on projects, which will be entered into rigorous local, regional, and in some cases state and national contests.
 - Learn and apply effective study skills techniques for academic success
 - Maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA; 3.5 GPA for leadership students
 - Enter at least one project in the MESA Day preliminary competition
 - Attend all two MESA Saturday Academies at California State University, Fresno

- Materials:**
- Composition notebook** to be used as a MESA journal *exclusively for this class*.
 - Several sharp **pencils** with **erasers** (mechanical pencils with lead refills work nicely)
 - Sticky notes** or **book tabs**
 - Ruler** and / or protractor
 - Colored pencils**

- Grading:**
- 20% attendance and participation
 - 40% projects
 - 40% MESA journal (including ABI checks, notes, organization, and bi-weekly project reflections through Google Classroom)

If you keep up with your work you will do well in this class. If you fall behind, you will have problems. **It's that simple!** Students who fail to maintain the minimum GPA requirement will be placed on academic probation until the next reporting period (progress report OR report card). This will provide students an opportunity to raise grades to avoid dismissal from the class.

ABI Grade Checks: ABI grade checks will be completed and turned in by all students 2 weeks before each grade reporting period. This includes progress reporting periods and the end of each quarter. Students will learn how to print out their grades and missing assignments using the ABI portal. They will then have parents review and sign them prior to turning them in to their MESA Advisor.

Parents: Please ask to see your student's agenda or check the MESA web calendar on the RJJH MESA Website to stay updated on important dates and project deadlines for this class. We will also send home a newsletter each month (**MESA Monthly**), which will keep you alerted to key information. You will be asked to sign a verification that you have read and calendared the information from the newsletter each month. If there are any questions about MESA activities or projects, do not hesitate to contact one of us via e-mail: cbennett@kesd.org or cboyd@kesd.org. Please realize that it is the *student's responsibility* to write important information and/or dates in their agenda each class session. *We will maintain our RJJH MESA Website with current information* about the class, including project timelines, important dates, links, and upcoming topics; therefore, it is a good idea to **check RJJH MESA Website regularly**.

Attendance and Participation: Outstanding attendance and participation are key to success in this class. Students should come to school ready to learn each class session. Participation refers to a student being actively engaged in classroom lessons and activities, coming to class prepared with necessary materials, as well as participating in MESA Saturday Academies / MESA Day competition(s). Students must follow classroom procedures and do the required work each class period. If you are absent, you will not be able to make up the work. This is why attendance is very important!

Tardies: Students will be marked tardy if they are not **sitting at their seat, starting work** when the bell rings. It is very important that each student begin the day's work as soon as they enter class.

Projects: As a part of this course, students are required to research, design, build & test at least three of the following projects. After completing each project, students will compete in an on-site qualifying competition with the projects to earn the right to compete at the MESA Day Preliminary competition at CSU Fresno in March. Students with qualifying projects may then continue working through the "Design-Build-Test" process on their own time (at home and/or during scheduled after-school work days) to prepare a competition-ready project for the Fresno State event.

Stick Together Bridges

Prosthetic Arm

LEGO Robotics

Arduino (national competition)

MESA Think Tank

Wright Glider

Rube Goldberg

MESA Journal: The MESA Journal is an important part of your success in this class. Students will take notes and maintain careful records of the projects they are working on in this journal and submit *bi-weekly Google Classroom reflections* as evidence of progress each Thursday in a week we have MESA on a Friday. Most MESA projects require detailed, dated descriptions and/or measurements to be considered for the MESA Day competition. Therefore, study and organizational skills are a key part of the curriculum. A goal of the MESA elective is to help you be very successful in school! To support this goal, regular *ABI checks* with parent signature will be required in this portion of the grade.

Bathroom / Water Fountain: Students should take care of their personal needs of using the restroom or getting a drink **before** coming to class. If using the bathroom is an emergency, the student will be required to make up the time during break, lunch or after school.

Tips for Success in the MESA Elective Class:

attend regularly / come to class prepared / participate in class discussions and activities

attend MESA Academies / take careful notes / do project work / give your best effort / have fun!

CSUFresno MESA Log-in Registration Information:

Edmodo Log-in: www.edmodo.com

Username: _____ Password: _____

MESA Online U Log-In Information

Username: _____ Password: _____