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Dear Student and Parent,

Welcome to AP Environmental Science. This year should prove to be both a fun and challenging year. The main purpose of this year is for you to learn the essential knowledge and skills you need in order to achieve a 3 or higher on the AP exam. It is my job to facilitate your learning; everything we do in class will be aimed at the goal. This year is going to be a journey that will lead you to this end goal, but in order to reach this goal it is essential that you become an engaged learner. Throughout the year, I have designed activities that will help you evaluate your present learning and set goals for future learning. Attached to this letter is a list of standards these activities will help you master. Below is a short description of each task:

1. Knowledge Statements

At the start of each class you will receive the learning objective/s for the day; at the end of each class you will write a short 2-3 sentence summary of your understanding of this objective. Before and after each test, each student will be asked to reflect on these statements and their understanding. At the end of the year, the students will again reflect on these knowledge statements and their understanding as we prepare to take the AP exam. The purpose of this is for you to become an active part in the learning process.

2. Science Portfolio

In order to achieve a high grade on the AP test, there are some fundamental skills you must show mastery of. Essentially, the skills can be broken down into two groups: reading and interpreting scientific information and scientific experimentation. The purpose of the science portfolio is for you to demonstrate your mastery of these skills. It is my belief that the mastery of these skills is the most important learning you can do throughout this year; these skills will help you as you move on in life.

I am here to support you throughout this journey and process. I am looking forward to the journey.

Sincerely,
Allister Scott