

**Laurie Cush Sorrell**  
**Advanced Placement Chemistry**  
**Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School**  
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Dear Student (and Parents):

You have indicated an interest in registering for Advanced Placement Chemistry, a course specifically designed for students who wish to take advantage of the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. I am confident that you are registering for this class because you enjoy a challenge, have a high interest in Chemistry, and would like to take courses that better prepare you for your future in higher education. It is vital that your ambitions include successfully passing the AP exam since you will be required to sit for the exam on Friday May 7, 2021 and it would be a waste of time, effort, and money if you are not fully committed to this goal.

If you are considering enrolling in this course purely because of social considerations (i.e. your friends are taking the class), or because you are lured by the extra weighting points (1 additional for calculation of GPA), I would strongly recommend that you reconsider your motives. This is an extremely challenging course which requires considerable math, reading, writing, and attention to detail. We will complete approximately 16 labs, and at least 4 of them will require a full lab report where the content is expected at the college level. Some labs also require students to propose the procedure. This workload is independent of your other classes, and extracurricular activities.

We will begin our study of AP Chemistry during the summer by reading the first three chapters of an online textbook. There will be reading notes/questions to answer and a set of problems for each chapter, which is due on the first day of school. We will also have a test, during the first week of school, to assess your understanding of the reading, retention of Honors Chemistry material, and the summer review assignment. This sample will be representative of the course expectations throughout the school year. Students who have a grade of "C-" or below, after the first week of school, will be asked to leave the class for an alternative placement since it is unlikely that they will be successful in the course. In order to complete the summer assignments students will need to immediately sign into the course Edmodo site. The logon password is given below.

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***Students may use a free online textbook for the summer assignment. The link is provided in the folders section on the Edmodo site. We will use a purchased book once the school year begins. Book information can be found on the school textbook ordering site.*** Students have been given the problems for each of the three chapters and the reading assignments will be available in the folders section on Edmodo. Students will also need, a graphing calculator, large 3-ring binder, loose leaf notebook paper, graph paper notebook (hardbound, please try to avoid spiral) and number 2 pencils.

**If you proceed to register for this class, you have indicated that you fully understand the**

**commitment that you are making.** If you believe that you might be unable, or unwilling, to complete the course assignments (including the summer assignments) I would encourage you to register for the Honors Environmental or any CP science elective course as an alternative. I do not wish for anyone to feel frustrated because they are incapable of meeting the academic requirements for AP Chemistry. Please discuss this course with your parents so that we are all in complete agreement about my expectations for this course.

The AP Chemistry class will be using the ALBERT.io software next year for skill practice and exam review. The software license and the newest version of *Cracking the AP Chemistry Exam* published by the Princeton Review. Students may purchase the Princeton Review from vendor of choice by December 1, 2021. A fee for Albert.io (approximately \$20.00) will be collected from each student when we come back to school in the fall. Please return this signed letter to me no later than the first day of school. A copy of this letter has been posted on Edmodo for your future reference.

Sincerely,  
Laurie Cush Sorrell

Student Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_