Dear Parents or Guardians,

My name is Mrs. Houseman, and I am so excited to be your student’s teacher this year! I have my bachelor’s of science degree in Geographic Information Systems with a minor in Geology from the University of Southern Mississippi. Previously, before starting a new career as a teacher, I worked with several private GIS firms that contracted with the Department of Defense as well as working an intern contract with NASA Develop modeling watershed basins in Alabama.

I found a passion of teaching, after graduating with my degree and moving to my husband’s home state of Texas in the middle of 2020, by working as a substitute teacher and remote tutoring Calculus, Chemistry, and Physics. I got my certification in Mathematics and Science 4-8 and have plans to get certified in Physics/Mathematics 7-12 in the near future!

So even though I am still new to teaching, I have so many great things planned to help each student move towards his or her academic goals! I plan on using multiple approaches to teaching the material from hands on/kinetically to more technological approaches with web-based applications such as quizlet, Colorado Phet, Khan Academy, and many more! So with that here are some things to note to make sure this year goes smoothly-

-Please make sure to follow the syllabus as it has all assignment due dates, expectations, and grading policy in more detail than this letter allows for!

-I will be checking notebooks/planners each week to make sure proper notes are being taken in order to succeed in the class- I will do this every Friday when students come in for class! This is to make sure that they will be ready to study for my tests or assessments that are given to them! If they do this and build their time management skills in the process/or show improvement in their time management skills I will provide 15 bonus points that can go to any grade or assignment.

- In regards to grading, I use a point based system with the class being worth a total of 1000 points and being segmented into the following portions

-In class assignments/Quizzes- 25%

-Homework- 25%

-Tests/Projects- 50%

I will accept late work, but it is one point off everyday it is late for homework and in class assignments and ten points each project assignment. If homework and projects are turned in on time, 100% of the time, 25 bonus points will be given that can be used as either a test booster or a substitute grade for two of the lowest quizzes. In class assignments and quizzes should be able to be completed during the day but if there are signs of a student struggling, I can provide modifications.

-Lastly, please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns; my goal with this letter is to start out on the right foot and make sure everything is as clear and concise as possible. My contact information is listed below as well as the links to the class website and google classroom.

-Phone- 228-342-4912

-Email: [mehousem843@gmail.com](mailto:mehousem843@gmail.com)

-Website Link:

Again, I look forward to working with your student and having a wonderful academic year! Thank you for reading this letter and I look forward to hearing from you all!

Very Respectfully,

Mrs. Houseman