

Dear Future Rossview Honors Biology Student,

As the instructor for your upcoming journey into high school science, I hope to expand on the knowledge that you already have for this subject. I would like to build on your interest, abilities, and aptitude for this subject, so that you will want to continue with the other upper division science courses that Rossview High School offers for you. The framework for this class specifies that it will substantially exceed the content standards by the State Board of Education. I will explain more of that to you and your parents when the school year begins. Part of the expectations for this class includes extended reading assignments per semester. The book that I would like you to purchase before school begins in August is *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver. Copyright 2007. You may purchase it through any venue including, but not exclusively, the Walmart website, Amazon.com, from an honors biology student I had this year or at the local bookstore. I think it is a book that you will find interesting and relevant as it talks about our food, where it comes from, and what we need to do as citizens of a green planet. I suggest you read the first six chapters and define and answer the questions found here, so that when you are instructed to take the test over those chapters, first nine weeks, you will have that as a reference. I allow you to use these notes as well as any other notes you choose to take on those chapters on the day of the test that will be announced weeks ahead of time. If you decide to wait to buy your AVM book, I have several copies that I will sell at a discount, and we can take care of that on the first day we meet.

Also for this class you will need a hefty stack of 5"x8" notecards (lined/unlined, colored or white, your choice; a blue or black ink pen, a #2 pencil, a highlighter, and a 'ring' that will open and close easily to accommodate these notecards that will become your journal for this class. It should be large enough to accommodate 18 weeks of work).

All your first six assignments for the reading are posted here.

Looking forward to a wonderful year of biology with you!

Martha K. Brunet
Biology, Honors Biology, Conceptual Biology