



## **Welcome to Honors Geology!**

Dear prospective Honors Geology student,

As you may or may not be aware, I *love* geology and am really excited you've decided to take the class! We'll be covering a wide variety of geologic topics in the course...yes, rocks and minerals...but so much more. There's even a field trip, or possibly two, that we'll take! It's my goal that when you leave Honors Geology, you'll have a better understanding of the unique place we call "home." We'll talk about the big ideas in geology and the geologic history of our region. For example, we live in a region that has larger earthquakes than any even possible in California. Did you know that many of the hills you drive over or around on your way to school are volcanoes that were spewing lava as recently as 3000 years ago? Are you aware that the most complete horse and camel fossils *in the world* come from Oregon? Ever been over the Coast Range? If yes, then you drove over a chain of islands very similar to the Hawaiian Islands! (Of course, now they're attached to our continent and covered with trees.)

An added benefit of taking this course is the option for earning college credit through Clackamas Community College in the Advanced College Credit program. If you elect for this credit, you'll be earning 8 hours of college science credit! As important as the money you'll be saving is the fact that you will learn very important study skills, lab analysis techniques and test taking strategies that will make you a stronger student once you arrive at your college of choice. The course will be challenging but we'll also have a lot of fun.

I figure it's been a while since you've studied topics related to geology (maybe 7<sup>th</sup> grade?) and in preparation for our work in this class, I would like for you to take some time this summer to practice thinking "geologically." I hope you find the set of assignments I've set up are interesting and informative. You can find links to all the summer assignments on my webpage. You can access this page from the school website: **<http://ochspioneers.org/contact>** Scroll down and click on my name, Chris Hedeem, and then select Geology at the top of the page. You will see the assignments on this page.

Please take a look at the page that gives a timeline and an overview of the summer work. You will need to access my webpage for the individual assignments. Please be sure to read the assignment page carefully and work through all the handouts that go along with the assignments. I clearly outline what you need to complete by the deadlines throughout the summer. If you have a conflict (such as vacation or other issue) please email me BEFORE the missed assignment so we can agree on some other resolution.

Completion of this set of assignments will require access to a computer, a camera (digital variety of preferred) and access to the Internet. If you have questions during the summer, please feel free to email me: **[Chris.Hedeem@orecity.k12.or.us](mailto:Chris.Hedeem@orecity.k12.or.us)** Please be aware that I've got lots of summer plans, so it might be up to a week before I respond to your email.

Have a fantastic, safe summer and I look forward to meeting you in a few months!

Sincerely,

Mr. Hedeem

