# **Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System Introductory Physics Reference Sheet**

#### **Formulas**

$$s_{average} = \frac{d}{\Delta t}$$

$$p = mv$$

$$F_e = k \frac{q_1 q_2}{d^2}$$

$$Q = mc\Delta T$$

$$v_{average} = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$$

$$F\Delta t = \Delta p$$

$$KE = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

$$v = \lambda f$$

$$a_{average} = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$$

$$F_{net} = ma$$

$$\Delta PE = mg\Delta h$$

$$T = \frac{1}{f}$$

$$v_f = v_i + a\Delta t$$

$$F_a = mg$$

$$W = \Delta E = Fd$$

$$V = IR$$

$$\Delta x = v_i \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} a \Delta t^2$$

$$F_g = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{d^2}$$

eff = 
$$\frac{E_{out}}{E_{in}}$$

#### **Variables**

a = acceleration

c = specific heat

d = distance

E = energy

eff = efficiency

f = frequency

F = force

g = acceleration due to gravity

 $\Delta h = change in height$ 

I = current

KE = kinetic energy

 $\lambda$  = wavelength

m = mass

p = momentum

 $\Delta PE = change in$ 

gravitational potential energy

q = charge of particle

Q = heat added or removed

R = resistance

s = speed

 $\Delta t$  = change in time

T = period

 $\Delta T$  = change in temperature

v = velocity

V = potential difference (voltage)

W = work

 $\Delta x$  = change in position (displacement)

### **Unit Symbols**

ampere, A coulomb, C degree Celsius, °C hertz, Hz joule, J kilogram, kg meter, m newton, N ohm,  $\Omega$ 

second, s volt, V

## Definitions

speed of electromagnetic waves in a vacuum =  $3 \times 10^8$  m/s

G = Universal gravitational constant =  $6.7 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}$ 

k = Coulomb's constant =  $9 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2}$ 

$$g \approx 10 \text{ m/s}^2$$
 at Earth's surface

$$1 N = 1 \frac{kg \cdot m}{s^2}$$