
SOCIAL STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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**What Will Your
Child Learn?
Here are the
highlights...**



7TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

The year starts with a focus on colonization of the North American continent by the British. We continue with a study of the Revolution and the U.S. Constitution (yes, this is when they will take the U.S. Constitution test). We finish the year with a study of the U.S. Civil War.

8TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

We begin the year analyzing Civil War Reconstruction and the expansion of the United States after the Civil War. Other topics that we will study: the Great Depression, World Wars I and II, the Cold War, the Holocaust and the Roaring Twenties.

8TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

Unit 1--Narrative Writing: students assume the role of a newspaper reporter, and use the concept of the "5 Ws" to write articles about various topics. The end product for unit 1 will be a newspaper containing at least four articles that they have written throughout the unit.

Unit 2--Argumentative Writing: students will focus on theme of a short story or book that they have read. The final product will be a paper that students write, and they will cite text evidence to argue that the theme they have identified is the one that the author was trying to portray in the story.

Unit 3--Informative Writing: students will produce a research paper as the final product in this unit, and will go through the research process on a topic of their choosing. Checkpoints and phases of this unit include things such as: filling out research logs, learning to do in-text citations, and creating a bibliography and cover page.

2020-2021 School Year

Absent/Make-Up Work: I am a firm believer that it is the ***student's responsibility*** to approach the teacher for make-up work due to absence. Since teachers are traveling this year, I will be keeping extra papers with me at all times. The timeline for turning make-up/absent work in, as stated by the handbook, is two days for the first day of absence, and then an additional day for each subsequent day of absence. If work is turned in after the deadline, points may be deducted (exceptions could be made for difficult issues; i.e. death, family issues, medical problems, etc...).

Re-Dos: Students may re-do any assignment or test throughout the year. On homework assignments, they just simply re-do the ones that were incorrect and can submit those corrections attached to the original copy of the assignment. In order to re-do a test or quiz, students must: fill out a request to re-do sheet (found in folder next to absent work), correct the questions they got wrong, and resubmit the original assignment with the corrected test answers and the request to re-do sheet. Any re-do must be turned in one week prior to the end of the quarter. NO ASSIGNMENTS will be accepted after that point. Once again, it is the ***student's responsibility*** to initiate the re-do process.

Class Website (useful tool!)

Link: mrsnyderushistory.weebly.com

What you will find here: weekly assignments, important class information, archived/old homework and class assignments, and teacher contact information.

Google Classroom

My website will be the primary source for obtaining resources. I will put links into Google Classroom to access those resources. Please check Google Classroom to get specific lesson information, and use the links provided for those resources. Below are the access codes to join Google Classrooms:

- 7th Grade Social Studies: 4c4zn4p
- 8th Grade Social Studies: 5prnpdd
- 8th Grade Language Arts: feohao

Weekly Homework

- SS—I will make an effort to give no more than 2-3 homework assignments per week; most all come out of the textbook on the student's Chromebook. The social studies textbook is uploaded by chapters; students should download the chapter PDFs at school and save to the Chromebook so they do not have to worry about needing to access it on the internet at home. Most every social studies homework assignment will be due the day after it is assigned. If inclement weather cancels school, the assignment will be due the day we return to school. If the student did not have my class due to early dismissal, they will receive the assignment the next day, bumping back the due date by one day as well.
- SS—Current events assigned every other week; due on the last day of the week (Thursday or Friday)
 - Students must complete a graphic organizer, write a two paragraph summary, and provide their source (website link/ printed article) at the top of the graphic organizer.
- 8th Grade LA—vocabulary assigned most every week (only on a four or five day week); test will be on the last day of the week.
 - We will also have assigned writing as a part of our curriculum throughout the year. There are three units.

2020-2021 School Year

- I will do my best to update grades weekly. They will be posted on Lumen. If there is a green "A" next to an assignment, that indicates that the student was absent when it was collected and they have yet to make it up. When an "A" is showing, this also means that the points have NOT been factored into the grade. If there is an "I" next to an assignment, that means the student did not turn it in on time, or that it is late. The "I" also means that the points ARE being included in the grade, and are counting against the student. These assignments can be made-up (see re-do/absent work section of brochure). If there is a "T" next to the student's grade, this means that they have turned in the assignment and it was turned in late (points likely reduced from assignment for it being late as well). If you see a "T" next to an assignment, that means the student has turned in the assignment and it is late. Points may be deducted from this assignment if you see that letter code.
- Here is a link to the classroom rules and procedures on my website. These are more specific, and are the things I will be going over with students in class: