

8th Grade U.S History

Welcome to 8th grade US History!!! History is what defines us, tries to explain us, and hopefully teaches us what we do not want to repeat. History is the story of mankind, the people who were successful, and some who were not. This year we will be studying the “ideas, issues, and events from the framing of the Constitution up through Reconstruction after the Civil War”. We will trace the “development of American politics, society, culture, and economy”. Also, we will learn about the challenges facing America as a new nation leading up to the causes and consequences of the Civil War.

Using this curriculum we will create a non-fiction literacy class which integrates 8th grade Language Arts standards with 8th grade Social Studies standards. In addition to focusing on literacy there will also be a focus on project-based learning that will require critical analysis of the events through U.S History and their impact socially, politically and economically. Geography and current events will also be integrated throughout the year’s study when pertinent.

This class will incorporate a great deal of discussion, projects, and personal viewpoints. Absolute respect of everyone’s opinion is essential and disrespect in any form is something that will not be tolerated.

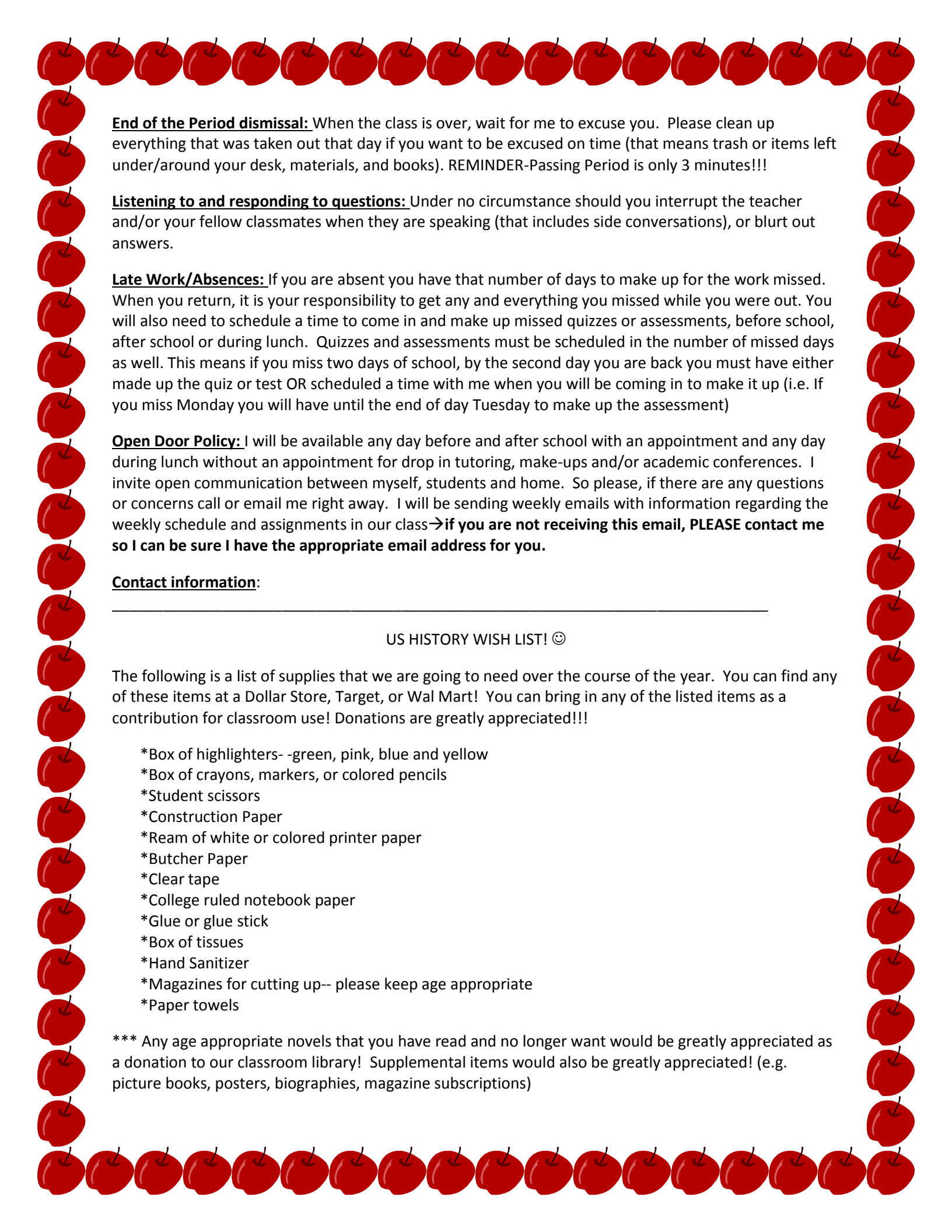
Materials needed for this class on a daily basis: Any of these materials can be found at Target, Wal Mart, Dollar Store

- A blue or black pen
- Pencils
- Colored pencils (encouraged, but optional)
- A colored pen for corrections: Red, green or purple
- Highlighter pack: Must include a pink, green and yellow highlighter
- Pencil Punch (one that can be placed inside binders)
- College Ruled Paper
- Poster boards (for project based assessment)
- A section in your binder for History
- Planner or Homework Agenda

Organization is the key to success. We will review these procedures in class in order to use our instruction time wisely and efficiently.

Entering the Classroom: Students will line up quietly outside and wait to be greeted by their teacher. Upon entering the classroom you will go directly to your assigned seat, write down the daily agenda as well as your homework in your daily planner. It is posted daily on the white board and should be the first thing you do every day. There will be notebook checks to confirm it is being done correctly. Students should come to class prepared to work and learn.

Binders: You will have one large binder for all of your classes. You need a section for History that is marked off in some fashion. ***PLEASE DO NOT STUFF OR CRAM YOUR PAPERS INSIDE YOUR BINDER.*** Every paper has its proper place; take time to put your papers away correctly to ensure finding it in the future. Most assessments will not be returned to students after it is graded, but will be kept in their portfolio in the classroom for report cards, but can be sent home and then returned to me upon request.



End of the Period dismissal: When the class is over, wait for me to excuse you. Please clean up everything that was taken out that day if you want to be excused on time (that means trash or items left under/around your desk, materials, and books). REMINDER-Passing Period is only 3 minutes!!!

Listening to and responding to questions: Under no circumstance should you interrupt the teacher and/or your fellow classmates when they are speaking (that includes side conversations), or blurt out answers.

Late Work/Absences: If you are absent you have that number of days to make up for the work missed. When you return, it is your responsibility to get any and everything you missed while you were out. You will also need to schedule a time to come in and make up missed quizzes or assessments, before school, after school or during lunch. Quizzes and assessments must be scheduled in the number of missed days as well. This means if you miss two days of school, by the second day you are back you must have either made up the quiz or test OR scheduled a time with me when you will be coming in to make it up (i.e. If you miss Monday you will have until the end of day Tuesday to make up the assessment)

Open Door Policy: I will be available any day before and after school with an appointment and any day during lunch without an appointment for drop in tutoring, make-ups and/or academic conferences. I invite open communication between myself, students and home. So please, if there are any questions or concerns call or email me right away. I will be sending weekly emails with information regarding the weekly schedule and assignments in our class→**if you are not receiving this email, PLEASE contact me so I can be sure I have the appropriate email address for you.**

Contact information:

US HISTORY WISH LIST! ☺

The following is a list of supplies that we are going to need over the course of the year. You can find any of these items at a Dollar Store, Target, or Wal Mart! You can bring in any of the listed items as a contribution for classroom use! Donations are greatly appreciated!!!

- *Box of highlighters- -green, pink, blue and yellow
- *Box of crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- *Student scissors
- *Construction Paper
- *Ream of white or colored printer paper
- *Butcher Paper
- *Clear tape
- *College ruled notebook paper
- *Glue or glue stick
- *Box of tissues
- *Hand Sanitizer
- *Magazines for cutting up-- please keep age appropriate
- *Paper towels

*** Any age appropriate novels that you have read and no longer want would be greatly appreciated as a donation to our classroom library! Supplemental items would also be greatly appreciated! (e.g. picture books, posters, biographies, magazine subscriptions)



Academic Dishonesty Policy

Academic Dishonesty falls into two main categories: Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating: the unauthorized use of assistance or information in any academic task. It includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying someone else's work;
- Allowing someone else to copy your work;
- Submitting someone else's work as your own;
- Sharing questions and answers to quizzes or assessments between classes;
- Acquiring, or attempting to acquire test/quiz/assignment information in advance for the purposes of dishonestly improving your score;
- Altering test/quiz/assignment answers after grading, and attempting to return the work for a higher grade.

Plagiarism: attempting to receive credit for the unauthorized use of another person's intellectual property- words, sentences, or paragraphs- without appropriate acknowledgement or credit. It includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying a source directly, word for word, without proper citation;
- Copying a source directly, and then changing a few words to "make it your own," without proper citation;
- Paraphrasing or summarizing another person's work, without proper citation.

In short plagiarism is presenting someone else's work, as your own—whether you do it on purpose or not. If you "forget" to cite your source, you are still guilty of plagiarism—as unsympathetic as that may sound. In this class, you will have instruction on how to both write information in your own words and how to cite your sources (and opportunities to "remember" to do so), so there is no excuse for not doing it. If you wait until the last minute to do your work, you are more likely to "forget", so consider this another good reason not to procrastinate! 😊

Academic Dishonesty is Dishonorable and will be penalized: DON'T RISK IT!!

Please Read, Sign, and Return bottom portion of this page only. Thank you!

I _____ (print student name) and _____ (print parent name) have read the course description and classroom rules. We understand them as written and will contact my child's teacher if any questions or concerns should arise throughout the year.

Student Signature _____ Period _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Phone Number _____

Secondary number _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address _____