7th Grade Social Studies Exploration through the Civil War

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Course Description:	Instructional Approaches:
This course will cover American History from early exploration through the Civil War. Students will master critical skills for interpreting maps, political cartoons and primary documents. They will improve their ability to analyze information from a variety of sources.	A variety of approaches will be used including lecture, discussions, role playing, simulations, visual arts, performing arts, cooperative-learning activities, interactive online activities as well as videos.

Social Studies Supplies	Classroom Demeanor:
 One three ring binder Two packages of 3x5 index cards One folder with pockets One package of loose leaf paper Dividers 	Students are expected to be ready , respectful and responsible at all times.

Grading Policy	Attendance:
Students are graded on a variety of criteria in	Regular attendance is necessary for success in
social studies. I use a total point system. Each	school. It is your responsibility to obtain any
assignment is worth a certain amount of points	notes missed and to complete assignments
depending upon the kind of assignment and	given on a day you are absent. It helps to
how much time is given to complete it. If you	have the phone number of at least two other
are absent the day any assignment is due you	students to call for missed work.
MUST turn it in within <u>ONE week</u> of the	
absence.	

Homework - *Homework completion is assessed each day and is counted toward your report card grade.	10-20 points
Classwork	10-20 points
Quizzes	5-30 points
Tests	50-100 points
Projects	50-100 points

Progress Sheet

Periodically, you will receive **a progress sheet** that will need to be signed and returned. This is a way for you and your family to keep in contact and aware of your current grades in Social Studies. If returned signed by the next class you will receive ten points extra credit. This sheet can also be emailed to you and your family.

7th Grade Curriculum Overview

"To teach is not to transfer knowledge but to create the possibilities for the production or construction of knowledge"
-Paolo Freire

Unit I: Age of Exploration and Colonization

A. Reasons for Exploration
B. European Explorers
C. Effects of Exploration and Settlement on Native Americans
D. Overview of European Settlements in America
E. Colonial America

Unit II: A New Nation

A. French and Indian WarB. Road to RevolutionC. American RevolutionD. Articles of Confederation

Unit III: Constitution and the New Republic

A. Constitutional ConventionB. Structure of the ConstitutionC. New Government in OperationD. Age of Jackson

Unit IV: Westward Expansion and Early Republic

A. Concept: Manifest Destiny B. The Spirit of Reform

Dear Pulaski Students and Families,

I hope you and your family enjoyed the summer break and are feeling refreshed to start a brand new school year! I am really looking forward to teaching and working with you. Above I have described the basic guidelines for my classroom. Attached you will find a very brief curriculum outline that we will complete throughout this school year. It is a great way for you to be aware of the areas of study as well as for you to read ahead in your text or any other supplemental materials you may like to read.

Open communication is critical in making a difference in our children's growth and development. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns. Our middle school handbook describes our policies and procedures as a school and team. It is a great resource to help you and your child learn about our program.

Thank you,		
Mrs. Laura Oliveira		
Please sign and detach the bottom portion and return to Mrs. Oliveira		
Please sign and return this page.		
I have read and understand the expectations and requirements for Mrs. Oliveira's Social Studies class.		
Print Student Name		
Student Signature	Date	
Parent Signature	Date	