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## HISTORY 7

Welcome to junior high! I am looking forward to working with your child. In my estimation, the onset of junior high marks the beginning of "independence." Open lines of communication between the teacher and the student are essential for a successful year. The majority of what a student will learn will take place in class. It is key that your child feels comfortable asking questions and in seeking clarification about assignments and grades before they leave the classroom each day. Students need to feel confident and comfortable with their role in the educational process. This will enable them to be good communicators in the school-home connection. Supporting your student at home in monitoring homework, in proof reading assignments and in gathering necessary supplies and materials for projects will be helpful this year. Beyond differentiating the curriculum, covering the state standards and in preparing students for standardized testing, the following will be promoted in class:

\*a sense of community in the classroom where individuality is encouraged and group support is required.

\*to provide students with tools, strategies and organizational systems to foster:

study skills, time-management, a balanced school life, team work, critical thinking skills, active class participation, pride in group and individual work and academic honesty in home, class and research assignments.

The best way to reach me is by phone or by written note. A response will be communicated within 24 hours. General class information will be on the web site. (I will notify the students when more online options are up and running).

In an effort to promote student accountability:

STUDENTS MUST COPY THE HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS IN THEIR HORNER PLANNER-before leaving class each day.

### COURSE CURRICULUM:

The history course is called "World History and Geography: Medieval and Early Modern Times." Students will study the following cultures and their effect on our world today:

- The fall of Rome and its influence on our culture
- The growth of Islam
- The great African States in the Middle Ages
- The Aztec, Maya, and Inca civilizations of the Americas
- China and Japan during the Middle Ages and Renaissance
- The Protestant Reformation and the Scientific Revolution
- The age of Exploration and its effects on native cultures

In addition to following the California State Standards, my class will be focusing on the following:

- Note taking
- Outlining
- Bibliographies
- Footnoting
- Research Papers
- Graphic Organizers
- Historical Fiction Selections
- Long-Term projects
- History Notebooks

The following text books and resources will be utilized:

- Holt's World History/ Medieval to Early Modern Times
- Holt's companion workbook