Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Welcome back! We are Mike Domerese and Josh Taylor. We are the 7th grade Social Studies teachers for the 2020-2021 school year. Our doors are always open. For a quick response, feel free to e-mail us. If your student has Mr. Domerese: [**mdomerese@clioschools.org**](mailto:mdomerese@clioschools.org)**.** If your student has Mr. Taylor**: jtaylor@clioschools.org.** If you prefer to talk, please leave a message with the school secretaries between 7:15 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (810) 591-0503) and we will return your call as soon as possible.

In 7th grade social studies students will be focusing on areas such as geography, government, economics, and history. As we open up each of these areas, students will focus on specific topics that will help them understand and tie together events of the past, present, and future.

In our social studies classes, the majority of the grade is earned through assessment. Weekly quizzes are typically given each Friday. On Fridays we take countries quizzes and content quizzes. With *Countries Quizzes*, students will be given a quiz over Eastern and Western Hemisphere countries, landforms, and bodies of water/rivers. These countries will make up four separate lists, in which students must properly label countries/bodies of water from memory. At the end of each semester, selected countries will appear on the final exam and count toward the final exam grade. A final exam over all locations will occur at the end of the 3rd marking period. Content Quizzes include questions covering new material from the week, but also cover old material for constant review. Students **are able to use any of their notes/assignments to help them with the Content Quiz only.** Study guides will be given to help preparation for Semester Final Exams.

Students will have classwork/homework, however not all assignments are collected. Students are given assignments as practice. All assignments are expected to be kept in the student’s binder as we do sometimes do binder checks which students must present/turn in an assignment for a grade. We go over and discuss the homework together in class. Students check their own to see any mistakes and to correct those mistakes. Students then keep their assignments for the entire year by keeping them in their three ringed binder. These assignments, along with any notes and handouts from class, may be used by students on the weekly *Content Quizzes* that are given each Friday. Student are highly encouraged to keep assignments in a three ringed binder in preparation for random in class binder checks.

Finally, each semester will have a final exam. The final exam is weighed as 20% of the final semester grade. We hope everyone has a great year and our door is always open!

**Required materials that will make for a smooth 2019-2020 Social Studies class:**

1. Writing utensil (for each day)—pencils or blue/black pens
2. Three ringed binder—at least 2 inches
3. Ear buds/head phones—for chromebook use only!
4. Colored Pencils

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Parents and students, please sign the bottom portion verifying you have read and understand the above information. Then please return no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Domerese

Parent signature/date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature/date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_