8th Grade Social Studies

United States History to 1877

2025-2026 School Year

Welcome Letter

Welcome to Goddard! I am excited to work with your child this year and help them grow.
I have provided a syllabus that outlines the rules for the classroom and lists the supplies needed. If you have any questions or concerns, I encourage you to reach out to me via email. Additionally, there is a "Get to Know Me" page on the back of the handout that I would like you to fill out. Your signature on the **Syllabus** will count as the first grade in the gradebook. I am looking forward to a great year together and I am committed to helping your child succeed.

Blessings,

Syllabus

Phone Policy:
All phones must stay in backpacks off. If a phone is out I will request for the student to place their phone on my desk for the remainder of the period. If a student refuses to place their phone on my desk an administrator will be contacted and the phone will be picked up. If a phone is picked up by the office there will be a $15 fee to get the phone back. A parent or guardian must pick up the phone from the office.

Grading Information:
Students are responsible for checking their Skyward in order to stay on top of their education and success. Guardians will be notified every 3rd if their child is likely to fail the six weeks period, in order to allow time for the grade to be brought up. If there is a 0 in the gradebook then the assignment is missing. There will be times when I may grade an assignment earlier than anticipated and a 0 will be used as a placeholder until the student turns in the assignment. **On Time Work** will be graded ahead of late work.

Late policy:
-10 points off any late assignment.
- NO late work will be accepted after the 5th week of the 6 weeks

Tutorials: Tuesday 410-430

Corrections:
Major grade tests must be corrected in after-school tutorials. Major grades can be corrected to an 80.

Misc. Point Deductions
Missing a first name -5 points

Missing a last name - 5 points
Missing a period - 5 Points
Missing due date - 10 points
** These points will not be given back once taken.

Due Date:
All assignments, corrections, and extra credit are due on the 5th Friday of the six week grading period. Any assignments turned in after the 5th Friday will **not** be accepted unless the student has spoken with me and has been given an extension due to absences or other extenuating circumstances. Please speak with me, share, email! We can do this together!

Bathroom policy:
I do not allow bathroom passes. Being in a portable, there are no bathrooms close. Missing class time is missing learning time. Please use another class that is in the building to use the restroom. I can only allow one emergency pass per student each 6 weeks. This is a STAAR tested subject.

Google Classroom:
My students will be able to find present and past lessons in Google Classroom. They will also have additional resources that may help them succeed. Parents are encouraged to join.

Food and Gum:
I do not allow gum or food. Clear water bottles only per Goddard Handbook.

Parent Communication:
Parents will be notified between the third and fifth week if their child is likely to fail the six weeks period in order to allow time for the grade to be brought up. I will send emails, so please be sure you email is up to date in Skyward. Please feel free to email me with any questions or concerns and I will do my best to get back to you within 12-24 hours. If I receive an email after 4:30 p.m. I am unlikely to respond back until the following day.

Supplies:

- **Composition Notebook (NO SPIRALS)**
- **Map colors - (For the backpack)**
- **Scissors (For the backpack)**
- **Glue (For the backpack)**
- **Pencils, I do not pick up or take, students need pencils for every class-every day.**
- **Highlighters (for the backpack)**
- Clear or Mesh backpack (school required)
- Headphones that plug in - Important for audio based testing and video based assignment - Bluetooth headphones are not allowed (For the backpack)
- **Students who do not bring supplies to school will call home until supplies are brought. Not being prepared interrupts learning & the growth mindset of being responsible.**

Get to Know Me and Signatures

FIRST GRADE OF THE SIX WEEKS

I AM A RAIDER

R	A	I	D	E	R
Respect	Accountability	Integrity	Determination	Engaged	Responsibility

RESPECT- Raiders are respectful
ACCOUNTABILITY- Raiders are accountable
INTEGRITY- Raiders have integrity
DETERMINATION- Raiders are determined
ENGAGED- Raiders are engaged
RESPONSIBILITY- Raiders are responsible