Sinaloa Middle School

Ronald Reagan Academy
of Communication and Leadership
2026-2027

6th Grade History/Mathematics//Digital Illustration

Mr. Lee Svoboda
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I. Teacher Bio:

I bring over 25 years of teaching experience, working with students from elementary through high school, and I am committed to helping every student grow academically, socially, and emotionally. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies, a Master's degree in Educational Technology, and a Master's degree in School Administration. I have taught mathematics, history, science, and graphic design, and have also served as a Math Instructional Coach, training and mentoring teachers to strengthen their instruction. My credentials and experience allow me to create engaging, supportive learning environments where students feel confident and capable. I look forward to partnering with you to ensure your child has a successful and rewarding school year.

I. Course Standards/Objectives:

Educational standards describe what students should know and be able to do in each subject in each grade. In California, the State Board of Education decides on the standards for all students, from kindergarten through high school. Information regarding specific standards can be found at www.cde.ca.gov

II. Classroom Rules and Student Responsibilities:

In our School… Sinaloa's SABER CODE is the foundation for behavior expectancies on our campus. This Code, along with our standards for citizenship/work habits grades, the school tardy policy, and the school discipline policies, are included in the agenda book. For more information on schoolwide policies and expectations, please review the agenda book, viewable online at sinaloa.simivalleyusd.org.

Classroom Behavioral Expectations

1. Be prepared for class each day.
2. Treat all peers and adults with respect.
3. Use appropriate language in speech and written work.
4. Treat all school property and the property of others with respect.
5. Do your personal best and advocate for yourself!

Food, drinks (other than water), and gum are not permitted inside the classroom.
Cell phones are not to be on in the classroom. If a phone is inappropriately used in the classroom, the office will be contacted and will enforce the school cell phone policy. (Cell phones must be out of sight and turned off at all times unless used in a teacher approved lesson.)

Possible Privileges may include	Possible Consequences may include
• Preferential seating • Positive contact home	• Contact home • Seat change

● School positive referral to office ● Rewards from teacher ● Higher citizenship grade ● Verbal praise and encouragement ● Special classroom privileges	● Loss of computer privileges ● Lunch or after school detention ● Referral to office ● Any student who consistently disrupts the class will be sent out of the room so learning can progress.

III. Textbooks/Materials:

Sixth grade history classes will be using the SVUSD adopted textbook *TCi History Alive! The Ancient World*.

Sixth grade math classes will be using the SVUSD adopted textbook *Big Ideas.*

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It is the student's responsibility to be prepared for class each day with the following materials:

1. Appropriate textbooks/materials and assignments for each class
2. An agenda book

Additional materials needed each day:

1. One single-subject spiral notebook (Science notebook will be provided)
2. A single subject pocket folder to store handouts
3. Pencils

<u>If you are unable to get materials, please see the teacher so together a plan can be put into place to ensure students are prepared for class.</u>

Please note that if students come to class without the required materials, they will NOT be sent to their lockers to gather the missing supplies.

In Digital Illustration class, students will be introduced to the fundamentals of digital illustration. Students will learn how to use digital tools and techniques to create original works of art while developing creativity, technical skills, and digital organization habits. The curriculum blends artistic principles (color, composition, line, balance) with 21st-century skills such as digital file management, creativity, and collaboration.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Navigate digital art software (e.g., Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop).
- Apply design principles such as line, shape, color theory, and composition in digital artworks.
- Create and organize digital files in folders for efficient workflow.
- Use digital tools (brushes, layers, shapes, text) to create original illustrations.
- Develop a personal artistic style through projects and critiques.

<u>If you are unable to get materials, please see the teacher so together a plan can be put into place to ensure students are prepared for class.</u>

Please note that if students come to class without the required materials, they will NOT be sent to their lockers to gather the missing supplies.

IV. Tardy and Absence Policies

- **School Tardy Policy:** On-time arrival at every class is a component of school citizenship (see school handbook). More than 3 tardies to class each quarter will result in an "N" (needs to improve) citizenship grade. More than 6 tardies to class will result in a "U" (unsatisfactory) grade in Citizenship.
- **Classroom Absence Policy:**
    - Excessive unexcused absences can impact a student's citizenship grade.
    - It is the student's responsibility to collect and turn in all missed work.
    - Absent assignments and/or re-teaching math videos & resources can be found in Google Classroom.
    - Students must make up **ALL** work missed due to absences. **If the student requires extra help from the teacher, it is the responsibility of the student to arrange a time with the teacher before the due dates or test dates.**
    - Any work that was assigned to a student prior to an absence is always due on the original due date after the student's return. The same policy applies to making up tests.
    - Students who miss test dates need to arrange for a time after school to make up the test within a week's time.

V. Grading Policy/Communication

Scores and grades are located on Aeries. Your student will demonstrate mastery in this class(s) except Digital Illustration by:

- Formal Assessment (tests and quizzes), Projects, Assignments/Participation

- History Grades: weighed: 75% Assessments, 25% Homework/Projects/Participation
- 100%-90% = A, 89%-80% = B, 79%-70 = C, 69%-60 = D, 59%-below =F
- Math Grades: weighed: 75% Assessments, 25% Homework/Projects/Participation
- 100%-90% = A, 89%-80% = B, 79%-70 = C, 69%-60 = D, 59%-below =F
- Digital Illustration: weighed 75% Projects, 25% Participation
- 100%-90% = A, 89%-80% = B, 79%-70 = C, 69%-60 = D, 59%-below =F

- **Digital Illustration class does not use formal tests or quizzes. Student progress will be measured through the completion of creative projects.**
- **Google Classroom (GC) and Aeries.net:** For up-to-date information on assignments (agenda), handouts, due dates, quizzes/tests, and school information see GC. Please see Aeries.net for up-to-date grades. Your student has access through their own school email and Google login. Aeries is the **most reliable source** of information on completed & incomplete assignments as well as overall grades.
- Students need to record the daily assignments/hw & important dates in their agenda book to ensure they complete all the required assignments, as well as, receive important notification dates on upcoming assessments and due dates. (Info can also be found in GC in the online weekly agenda if needed)
- School-to-home communication plays a critical role in the success of each student. Please use email or the agenda to contact me with any questions.
- **Plagiarism:** *Any attempt to cheat on assignments or exams by copying, plagiarizing, submitting work that has had a substantial amount of assistance from another person, using any type of AI (Artificial Intelligence) technology, or any other form of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of "F" (Fail) on that assignment/exam, a lowered citizenship grade, and other school disciplinary actions as outlined in the "Academic Dishonesty" portion of the Student Handbook.*

- **Late Work:** Students have until the final test of either a unit in science, history, or math to turn in any late homework/classwork assignments for partial points. **After the final test is given, late work can no longer be made up for any credit.**
  -Late projects will drop one full grade from the earned grade for each day it is late. No projects will be accepted after 5 days from the due date.
- Assignments may be assigned through Google Classroom and students will be expected to complete, upload, and turn in assignments.
- All homework is due the next day unless otherwise specified.
- Students will be expected to take notes during class and turn in at the end of the unit.
- When science labs are assigned, students must follow the Lab Expectations/Guidelines to ensure the safety of all students and equipment.
- Parents can contact the teacher through email to set up conferences or to express concerns about their student.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Know that I am here to help your students succeed and to help parents navigate through this journey together!

Looking forward to a wonderful year,

Lee Svoboda

Please sign and have your student return this portion below acknowledging that you have read and understand my classroom expectations, rules, and plan.

_____ _____

Student Signature Date

_____ _____

Parent Signature Date