

★ On the **following page (page #2)** you will write a friendly letter to incoming 8th graders. The overall idea is to give them some information and advice that you wish you may have had when you started 8th grade.

★ Your letter should be:

- Three to four paragraphs in length ( 5 sentences = 1 paragraph)
- In standard 12 point font
- Either single (1.0) or double spaced (2.0) "Line Spacing"

★ Each paragraph should cover a different topic. Some topic ideas include:

- What are some materials or resources that they will need or would be nice to have for Social Studies?
- What will they be learning about in 8th grade Social Studies? Are there any topics in particular you think they could start researching over the summer?
- What was your favorite learning topic or activity we did in Social Studies this year?
- What types of things do you do in this Social Studies class? What can they expect to do each class or throughout the year?
- What were some of the most important lessons and or skills you learned this year in Social Studies?
- How can they be successful in Social Studies?
- How can they avoid failure in Social Studies class?
- What makes your teacher happy? How can you earn your teachers' respect?
- What will make your teacher displeased? What could get you in trouble with your teacher?
- If there is something you would do differently knowing what you know now? What would it be and why?
- What will you miss about 8th grade Social Studies?

★ We plan on sharing these on our social studies class websites so the new 8th graders can see this advice over the summer and prepare for 8th grade early. Be creative and positive!

Dear future 8th grade social studies class,

Some materials you need for social studies class are your chromebooks pencil and paper. You will be learning a lot about the government and British colonies and other colonies. My favorite topic was the webquest for the government. I would start to research the government over the summer even though you have a government at the end of the year. You might want to bring everything to class because sometimes Mr. Jones wont let you leave the classroom to get your stuff.

I listen and pay attention and do my work in social studies class. You are probably going to expect a lot of writing or typing for all the work you do in social studies. The most important lesson I learned was to do all of your work and you'll do good in class. A skill that you might have is to make Mr. Jones laugh because he'll only laugh if it was a joke or something funny. You'll be successful by doing all your work.

The only way to avoid failure is to do all your work and get good grades on the quizzes and tests. Telling jokes makes Mr. Jones happy. You can earn your teacher's respect if you do all the work, have good grades and tell jokes and maybe even just by talking to him about your school work. You could get in trouble by not doing any of your work and getting bad grades on the tests. I will miss the government unit that we did at the end of the year.