

STUDENT CONTRACT

Team 6B Social Studies

Social Studies - Philosophy Statement - K-12

It is the philosophy of the Social Studies Department of the Westwood Regional School District to build a community that is civic-minded, globally conscious, and socially responsible. The study of social studies focuses on a deep understanding of concepts that enable students to think critically and systematically about local, regional, national and international issues. We believe in authentic learning experiences that enable students to apply content knowledge, value diversity, and promote cultural awareness. We help develop the technological skills students need to be successful in the 21st Century. The goals and objectives of the social studies curriculum lend to a deeper analysis of overarching themes that enable students to better comprehend how the past connects to the present.

At the Middle School Level

The middle school experience places emphasis on civic education, responsibility and diversity with instruction on more specific historical topics/themes such as the United States Constitution, Westward Expansion and the Civil War. Interdisciplinary collaboration with the language arts department occurs regularly; regular use of technology, oral presentations, and project-based learning are central components of the sixth grade social studies experience.

Classroom Rules

1. Students need to come to class prepared to work with materials organized,
– chromebook (charged), binder, planner, pen/pencil, earbuds - students may not go back to lockers for forgotten items after October 1.
2. Students are expected to pay attention in class, read the instructions on the board, and record all assignments in the planner.
3. Students are expected to raise a hand before speaking; calling out is considered class disruption and may impact the class participation average.
4. Only bottled water is permitted in class - bottles are to be kept on the floor to avoid damage to chromebook or papers. Students may not leave class to get a drink or refill bottles, this needs to be taken care of during passing time, before school, or during lunch..
5. There is no gum chewing or food permitted in the classroom.
5. Talking is permitted during project or collaborative work - discussion should be focused on the assignment or topic.
6. Students are expected to return all borrowed materials to their proper places, if cutting paper or using coloring tools, the work area is to be clean before class dismissal.
7. When class ends, students remain seated and wait to be dismissed, students do not line up at the front of the room.
8. Students need to pay attention when directions are given and hold all questions until the end of the instructions. Directions are given at the beginning of a task, requesting to leave the room during directions is discouraged (other than for emergencies).

Homework Expectations

1. Homework should be completed by the **due date**.
2. All assignments are to be headed with student name, period, assignment and date, when paper based.
3. Homework assignments are to be done with care. Sloppy or illegible work will not be accepted. In the event of absence, students receive one extra day for each day absent (unless special arrangements have been made for extended absences) – please check Google Classroom/the Team 6B calendar for assignments. If a playlist is in progress, all materials needed for missed work are typically posted and linked on the playlist and may be accessed at home. **All missed assignments are expected to be made up.**
4. If a student is unsure of how to answer a homework problem, please demonstrate effort in attempting to answer the question. Seek clarification during the next class.

Exams and Projects

1. It is the student's responsibility to study for upcoming tests and quizzes.
2. Students should review class notes regularly to prepare properly for upcoming assessments. It is recommended that readings related to a section exam be reread/reviewed as part of exam preparation.
3. Students should seek extra help if the content material is not understood – I am available during Academic Support Lab (ASL) and by appointment before or after school..
4. It is the student's responsibility to review a project rubric **prior** to turning in project work to ensure that all requirements have been completed..
5. Project work is due on the date assigned, when checkpoints are given, these count as due dates. Failure to meet due dates will result in a lower project grade.

Grading Policy

The following is a general overview of how grades are determined for sixth grade social studies.

Tests/Project	30%
Quizzes	20%
Participation	15%
Classwork	20%
Homework	15%

Information for Parents

1. Homework - is assigned as needed. If your child is absent from class, the assignments will be posted in Google Classroom and the Team 6B Calendar, which is linked on my homepage.
2. Extra Help – during any ASL period and by appointment before or after school.
Students should make every attempt to attend extra help when necessary.
3. Extra Credit opportunities are **sometimes** offered during the Marking Period, if students choose not to do extra credit **when it is offered** they need to understand that additional extra credit will not be offered at the end of the marking period
4. Genesis - is used for posting student grades. Grades are input regularly -please check on your child's progress in my class via this online parent resource - comments about missed or incomplete work are also posted here, as needed. Please Note - Genesis is not used for posting new assignments - please look at Google Classroom for current and new assignment postings.