# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Classroom Management Packet

Mr. Beaulieu Room A201



Supplemental Information to the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Team Guidelines

(Please keep this packet in your binder all year long)

# **Welcome to Eighth Grade Social Studies**

#### Dear Parents / Guardians:

My name is Derek Beaulieu and I will be your child's eighth grade Social Studies teacher this year. Since I will be such a big part of your child's life during this school year, I would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little bit about myself.

I have been a teacher at Pioneer Middle School for the past twenty one years. I have been fortunate to spend my entire teaching career at Pioneer Middle School. I have a B.A. in History from Western Washington University in Bellingham, WA. I have also taken over 90 additional college credits to stay up-to-date on the latest teaching theories and practices. I have been married for eighteen years and have two beautiful daughters.

I love teaching, so I also take the responsibility as a teacher very seriously. My mission is to enthusiastically motivate and inspire my students to be the best that they can be. I have very high expectations for my students and I will do all I can to help my students meet these high standards. I believe that every child deserves respect and dignity. I will do my best to create a respectful classroom environment by creating a classroom that is caring, nurturing, exciting and fun.

Please take some time to read through this **Classroom Management Packet**. This document has an abundance of important information that you and your child need to know. Please make sure your son/daughter return the final page of the classroom management packet by **September 10**<sup>th</sup>.

I look forward to a fun and productive year. You will be hearing from me on a frequent basis because you are the most important person in your child's life, and your involvement and support mean a great deal. Feel free to contact me if you should have any questions or concerns or visit my website at <a href="http://www.steilacoom.k12.wa.us//Domain/110">http://www.steilacoom.k12.wa.us//Domain/110</a>. This website is very helpful in keeping track of what is happening in 8<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies this year.

Thank you,

Derek Beaulieu

### I. DISCIPLINE PLAN

In order for Pioneer Middle School to be the best educational setting it can possibly be, the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Team of Teachers expects all students to adhere to the following premise:

#### Always do your best to promote the learning/safety of self and others.

As part of this basic framework, students are expected to follow the "4 B's" of the Pioneer Pact as outlined in the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Team Guidelines. These are:

# BE AN ACTIVE LEARNER! BE RESPONSIBLE! BE RESPECTFUL! BE SAFE

Students who choose <u>NOT</u> to follow the 4 B's can expect the following range of actions and consequences to occur:

Problem?	Consequence
1 <sup>st</sup> Offense:	Warning
2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense:	Processing Form
3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense:	Lunch Detention
4 <sup>th</sup> Offense:	After School Detention
5 <sup>th</sup> Offense	Friday School
Severe:	Immediate removal + office referral

The student or teacher, at any of the five levels of inappropriate behavior, may call parents during class.

Mr. Beaulieu will go over the procedure for processing at least three times at the beginning of the year. After Mr. Beaulieu covers how a student should process, students will be expected to remember the process. If a student doesn't properly process after the discussion of processing, they will move to the next level of consequence.

To maintain a respectful environment, the following specific behaviors will result in an automatic detention or office referral (depending on the severity).

- Telling someone to "shut up" or saying the word "sucks"
- Calling someone names or put downs (e.g., stupid, idiot, or dumb)
- Hitting or slapping someone
- Throwing items (this includes throwing at the garbage can)

#### Behavior with visitors:

- Do NOT talk to office or teacher aides that enter the classroom.
- Excellent behavior when other adults are in the classroom. When an adult enters the classroom, do not talk to the adult unless they talk to you first.

#### Consequences for inappropriate whole class behavior:

• Mr. Beaulieu will count down from <u>five</u> to <u>zero</u>. When the class reaches zero, the class will copy one set of classroom rules. If the class continues to be disruptive, more sets of rules will be added. The rules will be collected at the end of the period. Any student who refuses to turn their rules to the teacher will be given a detention.

#### Coming to class prepared:

To be successful in school, students need to come to class with their proper materials each and every day. Students are expected to come to class with pencils/blue or black pens, blank lined paper, textbook, completed homework every day. If students do not bring proper materials to class, they will earn a lunch detention.

# II. PROCEDURES

In order for our classroom to function in an organized manner, we will be following the procedures listed below:

#### Start-of-Class:

- Enter the classroom responsibly and respectfully.
- Sit at your assigned seat and quietly place all needed materials on your desk
- Immediately get started writing in your planner.
- If there is a warm up activity, complete it after you write in your planner.
- Remember: Students are NOT allowed in the classroom without being supervised by an adult.

#### **End-of-Class:**

- When told to do so, pack up your belongings but remain in your seat.
- If necessary, return all in-class materials to their proper place.
- Make sure your work area is clean. Wipe down desk if necessary.
- Get your desks on the tacks and straighten up the rows.
- When excused, push in your chair, and leave room responsibly and respectfully.

#### **Attention Signal:**

When Mr. Beaulieu says, "May I have your attention please and/or eyes up here." please <u>STOP</u> (both talking and doing), TURN, and LISTEN. Usually, he only needs your attention for a moment.

#### **Collecting Assignments:**

- pass papers to the front of the row, the first person in each row collects all the papers
- the first person in each row passes the papers towards the collection boxes in the front of the class

#### Late/Absent Assignments:

- Assignments are considered late if they are not turned in at the time that they are <u>collected</u> by the teacher (unless absent).
- If an assignment is late, write **LATE** on the top of the assignment
- If you were excused because of an absence, write **ABSENT** at the top of the assignment. If the student does not write **ABSENT** on the top of the assignment, it will be considered **LATE**.

#### Where do assignments go?

- **Red Box** --- to turn in assignments
- **Blue Box** --- assignments to be returned to students. If you see papers in the blue box, please volunteer to pass back the assignment.
- After Mr. Beaulieu has explained where to turn in work ten times, there will be a loss of five points on each assignment for having to ask Mr. Beaulieu where to turn in student work.

#### Correcting papers during class:

- When assignments are being corrected during class, students are <u>NOT</u> allowed to talk without the permission of the teacher. Students may lose their papers if they are caught talking during the correction process.
- Students should use a blue/black/red pen to correct work.
- Record the score at the top of the paper with points earned (above) and points possible (below)

#### **Sharpening Pencils/Tissue/Water:**

- Class time is very valuable, to respect the time of all students'; all students will be expected to have TWO SHARPENED #2 PENCILS at the beginning of each class period. STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO SHARPEN PENCILS DURING LECTURE, AGENDA OR DISCUSSION TIMES. Failure to comply with this expectation will result in a lunch detention.
- During quiet work times, students don't have to ask to get a tissue or get a drink of water. If you need
  to leave the room to blow your nose, however, please check with Mr. Beaulieu first.
- Students do have to ask permission during lecture, agenda or discussions times to get a tissue or a drink of water.

#### **Paper Headings:**

Paper headings belongs in the top right hand corner of the paper with the following information:

First Name & Last Name Date Period #

- If you have more than one paper to turn in, <u>staple</u> them together or the extra pages may not be graded.
- If the activity has a place for a heading, fill out the heading completely on all pages.
- Papers without the proper heading may not be accepted for credit.
- Use a #2 pencil, dark blue or black ink pens. No other colors will be accepted.

# **III. SOCIAL STUDIES BINDER**

In Mr. Beaulieu's class, each student is required to have a binder and Homework Folder

#### 3 Ring Binder:

Put all subjects into one binder or have a separate smaller binder for each subject (whichever suits you best!). Either way, put a set of five dividers (w/ tabs) into this binder along with some college or widerule paper.

#### Dividers/Tabs:

Neatly write the following labels onto the five tabs. It does not matter what color tab goes with which label. Once complete, insert the dividers, in this order, into your binder.

- ASSIGNMENTS
- NOTES
- WARM UPS/EXIT QUESTIONS
- PORTFOLIO INFO.
- C.B.A.

#### **Section Descriptions:**

Below is a description of each of the five sections of your social studies binder and how Mr. Beaulieu expects you to use them. Mr. Beaulieu will hole-punch everything he gives to you so make sure all handouts end up in the appropriate section. Needless to say, your social studies binder is designed to help you stay organized: **ORGANIZATION = SUCCESS!** 

- Assignments This is where you should keep all assignments that have been graded.
- Notes This is where you should keep all work that is given to you that isn't graded.
- Warm Ups/Exit Questions This is where you should keep your opening & closing class activities.
- Portfolio Info. This is where you should keep content and information for your portfolio.
- <u>C.B.A.</u> This is where you should keep all of your Washington state Classroom Based Assessment (C.B.A.) information.

#### Binder:

- Use a pen or permanent marker to <u>clearly print</u> your first and last name on the front cover of your notebook. Also, print your name along the side of your social studies notebook.
- Keep all assignments, notes and tests until the end of the year. These items can be used on the final test. YOU WILL BE TURNING ALL YOUR WRITTEN WORK IN TO ME AT THE END OF THE YEAR TO BE GRADED. I will return it to you and you will keep it until you take the second part of U.S. History. You will earn points for keeping all written work in your binder and having it organized in the correct order (200 Points). DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU!!!

#### **Homework Folder:**

It is 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Team policy that each student has a homework folder. Please make sure your student has a homework folder ASAP. The right side of the folder should be labeled, "**Work to do**". The left side of the folder should be labeled, "**Completed Work**." Students need to use this folder to keep their homework organized.

# IV. PROGRESS

In Mr. Beaulieu's class, students can monitor their progress (or grade) in a variety of ways. Please read below to learn how grades are handled in Mr. Beaulieu's class.

#### **Grading Scale:**

Below is the grading scale used in Mr. Beaulieu's classes. Each student's grade is a percentage based upon the total number of points earned divided by the total number of points possible.

93% or above	Α	73-76%	С
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
83-86%	В	63-66%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
77-79%	C+	59% or below F	

#### **Internet Grades (Skyward):**

A student or parent can check their grade anytime by going to the Skyward website. Students are expected to check their grades on the Skyward website at least once a week and report any issues they see. Use your username and password to access this confidential information for all classes. If you have not yet received a username and password, please check with the front office or the district registrar.

Mr. Beaulieu will be sending weekly emails to keep you up-to-date with what is happening in class, so please make sure your email on Skyward is up-to-date!

# V. PLANNER

All students at Pioneer Middle School are expected to have a planner. If a student does not purchase a planner from the office, they will need to supply one of their own.

#### **Expectations:**

All students are expected to write in their planner every day, including making up for days in which they were absent. If the student is absent from school they should visit the classroom website at <a href="http://www.steilacoom.k12.wa.us//Domain/110">http://www.steilacoom.k12.wa.us//Domain/110</a> and write down what we did in class on that day.

#### Planner Board:

What should you write in your planner? Students should write exactly what Mr. Beaulieu writes on the Smartboard planner. Your job is to copy the information <u>exactly</u> into your planner (don't leave anything out!).

#### Planner "Pop" Quizzes:

Occasionally, and with no warning, Mr. Beaulieu will conduct a planner "pop" quiz. Planner quizzes are worth points toward your grade.

#### Parents/Guardians:

Please emphasize the importance of the planner to your child in helping them to stay organized and helping you to stay informed. Too often, students get home after school and are asked, "Do you have any homework?", and the answer is "no". The reality is, if you require your child to neatly and accurately write in their planner every day (as I will do), you have a direct link to what we did in class that day, whether or not there is any homework, and when that homework is due. Please check your student's planner. If you don't think your child is writing in their planner completely, check the classroom website for what Mr. Beaulieu is writing in the planner.

# VI. HOMEWORK POLICY

Why I Assign Homework: I believe homework is important because it is a valuable aid in helping students make the most of their experiences in school. I give homework because it is useful in reinforcing what has been learned in class, prepares students for upcoming lessons, teaches responsibility and helps students develop positive study habits.

**When I Assign Homework:** Homework will be assigned three to four times per week. Assignments should take no more than 30 minutes to complete each night if the student uses their time in class wisely. This 30 minute time span does not include studying for tests and working on projects. I will give at least one week's notice to study for all tests.

**Students' Homework Responsibilities:** I expect students to do their best job on their homework. I expect all work to be neat and well organized. Students are allowed to call their "study buddy" for help but students should do their own work. I expect that all assignments will be turned in on time.

**Teacher's Homework Responsibilities:** I will check all homework and return it in a timely manner. Because I strongly believe in the value that positive support plays in motivating students to develop good study habits, I will give students encouragement and offer helpful feedback when they do their homework.

**Parents' Homework Responsibilities:** Parents play an important role in making homework a positive experience for their children. Therefore, I ask that parents make homework a top priority, provide necessary supplies and a quiet homework environment, set a daily homework time, provide praise and support, not let children avoid homework, and contact me if they notice a problem.

If Students Do Not Complete Homework: If students choose not to do their homework, I will talk with them to make sure they understand the assignment. Students also need to understand that late work is only worth ½ credit. If the problem persists, I will contact the parents to discuss possible solutions.

# VII. AREAS OF STUDY

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies areas of focus:

- Unit 1: Colonization/American Revolution
- Unit 2: American Government
- Unit 3: Westward Expansion
- Unit 4: Causes of the Civil War Era

## Major Projects in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies:

- Achievement Portfolio for each unit
- Classroom Based Assessment (CBA) Constitutional Issues (State Law Requirement)

# VIII. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

#### Keys for positive results in this classroom:

- NO talking while the teacher is talking to the class (without raising hand)
- Don't call out, "Mr. Beaulieu, Mr. Beaulieu." when you are waiting to be helped. (raise your hand and wait)
- No whining!!! (BE THE MOST POSITIVE PERSON YOU KNOW!!!)
- Don't touch the Smartboard without the permission of the teacher.
- No tapping! (Pencils, pens, or other objects)
- Don't take anything off the teacher's desk without permission.

#### Fire drill:

- Turn right out of the class
- Turn right at the end of the hall
- Walk down the main upstairs spine
- Turn right down the stairs
- Turn left off the stairs
- Go out the doors to the bus lane
- Walk along the bus lane
- Walk to the field
- Line up with 1st period teacher
- Line up alphabetically and be silent!!!

**Gum Policy** – According to school rules, chewing gum will not be allowed at Pioneer. Students who are caught chewing gum will be given a lunch detention.

Materials you can use in the classroom- Staplers, hole-punch, markers, colored pencils, scissors, and glue

**Textbooks:** The textbooks are newer. Keep them covered and safe at all times. Students who do not have textbooks covered will earn a lunch detention. You will be charged for any damage to the book and/or Student Works CD you receive.

# **CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT TURN IN SHEET**

We have read, understand, and agree to the guidelines in the Classroom Management Packet (including the Homework Policy). We understand we can call at any time if we have questions or to set up a conference if we have further concerns or questions.

Please PRINT and	d SIGN your name below.			
Student: Print		_ Sign		
Parent: Print		_ Sign _		
Period #				
communication.	NT: The eighth grade team for the second sec	s, under	stand that all e-mail can po	
	(Number)		(Phone belongs to)	
Phone numbers:				
E-mail address: _				( <u>please print neatly</u> )
-				(additional address)
-				(additional address)
DUE: September	10, 2012			
Parent / Guardiar	ı Comments:			