

- ★ 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 five paragraphs in length (5-8 sentences = 1 paragraph)
 - In standard 12 point font, In Arial or Times New Roman
 - Either single (1.0) or double spaced (2.0) "Line Spacing"
 - Either block paragraphs or indent paragraphs.
 - Basic rules of writing should be followed → sequencing and flow, complete sentences, correct: spelling, capitalization, grammar, punctuation
 - If these are not followed and impacts the reading of your letter points will be taken off or extra credit will not be awarded
- ★ 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 to 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 new social studies eighth graders, here are some of the tips I have for your new school year. Starting with supplies. Some things that would come in handy is any size of binder, lots of pencils, charged chromebook, a pen, and a notebook or college rule lined paper. Another tip is to make Mr. Jones happy, make sure you are responsible with your work and come to class prepared EVERYDAY. In every class, but especially social studies, always have your work turned in on time and study for quizzes and tests.

To become successful in eighth grade social studies, you need to put time and effort into studying and class work. Don't get distracted in class and don't be a distraction in class. To avoid failure, you need to always know what is going on and what the main idea of the topics are. In social studies this year I felt like it was important and we learned a lot about more recent happenings in US history rather than just ancient happenings. Learning about these topics helped me to pay attention more and want to learn about it.

If I could choose to do something differently this school year, I would choose to ask more questions and speak up. Mr. Jones always liked us volunteering to ask questions. I would do that more and just participate in class more. Something I will miss about eighth grade social studies is all of the group work time we did. If group work is your thing we always got the option for that but we also always got the option to do work on our own is that is what you prefer. This was a nice option if you ever felt confused you could ask friends for help.