

8th Grade Civics and Economics  
Mr. B. Jenkins  
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2010-2011 School Year

**Dear Parents and Students,**

I would like to welcome everyone back to Southampton Middle School for what I hope to be an exciting school year. I will be teaching your child 8th grade Civics and Economics. I am looking forward to working and getting to know you and working with your child throughout the school year.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you the parent and the student some of the guidelines and information about what I expect to take place throughout the school year. This letter will include my grading policy, needed supplies, curriculum, plus contact information.

**Course of Study:** The eighth grade Civics and Economics class will examine the roles citizens play in the political, governmental, and economic systems in the United States.

**Needed Supplies:**

1. 3 inch binder (1)
2. No. 2 Pencils
3. Loose Leaf Paper
4. Blue or Black Pens
5. Journal Notebooks (3)
6. Colored Pencils
7. Highlighters

**Expectations:**

1. Respect all peers, teachers, and classroom materials.
2. Be prepared and in your seat ready for work when the bell rings.
3. No eating or drinking in class at any time.
4. Raise your hand for recognition.

**Consequences:**

1. First offense: a verbal warning
2. Second offense: a note home or in extreme cases a phone call home
3. Third offense: a written referral

**Technology:**

Students are encouraged to use computers for research as much as possible. This is for the student's benefits. It is essential the student has a strong grasp on how to do research, and assignments on a computer. Once again this is not required, but if the students need help all they have to do is ask for assistance and it will be provided.

**Daily Procedure:**

Students are expected to come to class on time and have required materials for class. All assignments should be turned in on due date. Late work will not receive full credit. The grade will drop 10 points each day late unless cleared with me beforehand.

**Grades:**

I encourage students to ask about their progress throughout the 9 weeks. Quizzes may be announced or unannounced. Students will be informed of test at least 3 days before test. Papers will also be assigned. These papers will not be every 9 weeks. Class participation will be taken into account in the grading process.

**Grade Distribution Grading Scale**

Test- 30% A- (100-93)

Classwork- 25% B- (92-85)

Quizzes -20% C- (84-77)

Flanagan / Projects/ Benchmarks- 15% D- (76-70)

Homework- 10% F- (69-below)

**Tardy Policy:**

Note: The new policy at SMS states that if you are not seated when the tardy bell rings it is mandatory that we mark you as tardy and three tardies will equal one absence.

**Absences:**

Students are required to ask for work if they have been absent from an assignment. They must take responsibility for the missed work. I will not find the student each time work is missing the student must show responsibility.

In closing I would like to again welcome everyone to Southampton Middle School. I will help assist whenever needed. The main goal here is to ensure each student can better themselves both as a student and a person. Thank you and I am looking forward to working with each parent and student throughout the year. Please feel free to ask any questions needed.