

# Welcome to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Georgia Studies



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**To Contact Me:** *Please feel free to email me if you have any questions or concerns. I will get back with you as soon as possible. Success in social studies is a partnership between students, teachers, and parents.*

**Course Description:** We will be studying Georgia History this year, as defined by the Georgia Social Studies Standards of Excellence. Some of the topics that we will learn about include Geography, Economics, and Government. Various teaching methods are incorporated into the curriculum. Students can look forward to keeping a personalized social studies journal, using the Recordex board, and playing review games on a consistent basis.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Georgia Studies Content:** We will be learning the information that is contained in the Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence found on the Georgia Department of Education website. You may view the standards using the following link: <https://lor2.gadoe.org/gadoe/file/6279d78f-df41-46d6-854e-2e61272853c2/1/Social-Studies-8th-Grade-Georgia-Standards.pdf>

**Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum:** Informational reading and writing are essential skills for success in all areas. Each student will have a Georgia Studies Journal used to record written notes and respond to social studies topics. Students will be assigned reading and writing tasks as classwork/homework on a regular basis.

**Evaluation:** In the social studies department, we use many forms of assessment to evaluate student understanding. Our grading is divided into two main categories:

- **Formative Assessments-** 40% of the total average (includes individual and group assignments, quizzes, daily work, homework, etc.)
- **Summative Assessments-** 60% of the total average (tests/exams, and major projects)

**\*\*You are encouraged to track your child's progress on the computer using PowerSchool. See the CMS front office if you have not yet picked up your login information.**

**Preparation and Participation:** Class preparation and participation are imperative to your success in the classroom. Students will be required to bring their social studies workbook, pencil, and journal to class everyday. Students are expected to complete all classwork and homework assignments. Failure to complete a required assignment can result in grade and behavior consequences.

## **Resources:**

- **Blooket/Quizizz:** These are fantastic review programs! Each one allows multiple study options including flipping through flashcards and playing games. It can be accessed by computer ([Blooket.com/Quizizz.com](https://www.blooket.com/)), or by smartphone (You will need to download the free apps).
- **Workbook:** *Georgia Experience (Gallopade/Carole Marsh)*. Students are responsible for lost or damaged books.
- **Destiny:** Our school website provides a wealth of information. You may login to Destiny through our school website and search all of our media center resources. There, you can find books, articles, and websites on a broad spectrum of topics.
- **Schoology:** All classwork and homework is posted in Schoology **DAILY**. If your student is absent or did not bring home materials, everything can be found in Schoology.
- **Flocabulary:** Flocabulary is a learning program for all grades that uses educational hip-hop music to engage students and increase achievement across the curriculum.

**Classroom Management:**

In order to set clear expectations, maximize instruction time, and keep your child safe, CMS has implemented the following infraction policy:

- Infraction #1- Parent Contact
- Infraction #2- Silent Lunch/Parent Contact
- Infraction #3- Team Forum/In-Team Suspension/Parent Contact
- Infraction #4- Pre-Office Referral/Parent Contact
- Infraction #5 – Office Referral/Parent Contact

**Communication with Parents:**

Parent/Teacher interaction is vital to your child's success as a student. We use several tools to communicate with parents.

- Infinite Campus: Infinite Campus allows parents to access their children's grades in all subject areas. If you do not have your child's login and password, please contact the front office. Power School can be accessed through the Cartersville School System website ([www.cartersvilleschools.org/CMS](http://www.cartersvilleschools.org/CMS)).
- Individual Teacher Websites: Each teacher has designed a website to include important information such as assignments and announcements. Teacher websites can be accessed through the Cartersville School System website. See "School Staff" for a list of individual teachers' names.
- Student Agendas: All CMS students will be given their own agenda where they are responsible for writing down daily assignments. Please check your child's agenda nightly for homework assignments and upcoming tests/projects.
- Progress Reports: CMS sends home progress reports every four weeks. Please review the report with your child, sign it, and send it back on the next school day.
- Report Cards: At the end of every quarter, your child will bring home a report card with his/her final average for each class. Please review the report with your child, sign it, and send it back on the next school day.
- Teacher Email: You can find email addresses for your child's teachers on the Cartersville Middle School Website.
- Teacher messaging system: Teacher Messaging is a program that allows teachers to remind parents and students about upcoming assignments and other important information via email &/or text messages. Messages will be sent to numbers and emails on file with the office as student information.

**Late Work Policy:**

Students are expected to turn in all assignments completed and on time (due date). There will be no late/missing assignments accepted after the End of Unit Assessment is given.

If there is any other way we can be of assistance to you or your child, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to a great year learning history together!