Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Welcome back! We are Mike Domerese and Josh Taylor. We are the 7th grade Social Studies teachers for the 2015-2016 school year. Our doors are always open. For a quick response, feel free to e-mail us. If your student has Mr. Domerese: [**mdomeres@clioschools.org**](mailto:mdomeres@clioschools.org)**.** If your student has Mr. Taylor**: jtaylor@clioschools.org.** If you prefer to talk, please call the school between 7:15 a.m.-3:00 p.m. ((810) 591-0503) and we will return your call as soon as possible.

In our social studies classes, the majority of the grade is earned through assessment. Weekly quizzes are typically given each Friday. On Fridays we take countries quizzes and content quizzes. With *Countries Quizzes*, students will be given a quiz over Eastern Hemisphere countries, landforms, and bodies of water/rivers. These countries will make up four separate lists, in which students must properly label sixteen countries/bodies of water. At the end of each trimester, selected countries will appear on the final exam and count toward the final exam grade. A final exam over all locations will occur at the end of the second trimester.

Students will have homework, however not all homework is collected. Students are given the homework as practice. All assignments are expected to be kept in the student’s binder as we do sometimes do binder checks which students must present/turn in an assignment for a grade. We go over and discuss the homework together in class. Students check their own to see any mistakes and to correct those mistakes. Students then keep their assignments for the entire year by keeping them in their three ringed binder. These assignments, along with any notes and handouts from class, may be used by students on the weekly *Content Quizzes* that are given each Friday. Content Quizzes include questions covering new material from the week and map/chart interpretation, but also cover old material for constant review. Students are able to use any of there notes/assignments to help them with the Content Quiz.

In addition, students are allowed to “Redo” assignments/quizzes. However, redos are limited to only two a trimester. Students must fill out a “Redo” sheet and it must be signed by a parent before the “Redo” is given.

Class Textbook is found on the class website. Students have a book to use in class, but are expected to use the on-line version at home. If a student does not have access to the Internet then a book will be issued to that student.

Finally, each trimester will also have a midterm and a final exam. The final exam will count as 20% of the final trimester grade. We hope everyone has a great year and our door is always open.

**Required Materials that will make for a smooth 2015-2016 Social Studies class:**

1. Writing utensils (Pens or Pencils are fine)—for each day.
2. 3 ringed binder— (at least 2 inches) This is where all the years assignments will be stored for referencing.

Parent and Student please sign and return this bottom portion (Keep top for your reference) verifying that you read this information over and return by **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

Thank you, Mr. Domerese and Mr. Taylor.

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_