

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Georgia Studies On-Level Class

## Mrs. Welch

**Purpose:** Study the geography, history, government, and economy of the state in order to understand the role Georgia plays in American history.

### **Contacting me:**

- E-mail is the best way: [cmwelch@paulding.k12.ga.us](mailto:cmwelch@paulding.k12.ga.us)
- Remind Information  
Remind Information  
**On-Level Georgia Studies:** text @welchGAol to 81010  
**8th Grade Homeroom:** text @8homeAMS to 81010
- Tutoring: Wednesday at 7:45am
- Hand written note
- Call front office and leave a message
- Check my website Canvas page for basic class agenda, some class resources, and some assignments

### **Supplies: In addition to basic supplies of notebook paper, pencils, and blue/black pens:**

- Notebook (1" is fine or you can share this in a team notebook)
- 70-100 page spiral notebook **or** composition notebook (for journals only)
- 3 prong pocket folder with blank notebook paper inside (I will keep these in my classroom for anchor charts)
- Highlighter
- Colored pencils!

**Textbook:** We do not issue textbooks, nor do we use routinely use them in class. However, if you would like for your student to have a textbook sent home, please let me know so one can be issued and returned at the end of school.

**Online Textbook:** This is a **great**, interactive resource for parents and students!! Highly encouraged to access if students need extra help or are struggling with content.

Georgia Studies Digital Textbook: <http://www.gpb.org/education/georgia-studies/digital-textbook>

**Technology:** In today's digital world, technology is becoming a vital tool in the classroom. All classes will be using electronic devices throughout the year. Each student is encouraged to have a personal electronic device as well as some type of earbuds on the day's students will be working online.

**Inquiry Based Classroom:** In an inquiry-based classroom, students are encouraged to take ownership of their learning as they develop skills that will help them prepare for high school as they become independent learners. To accomplish this mindset this year, students will:

- Preview assigned online material/videos at home before coming to class in order to build background information.
- Learn how to develop in-depth closed and open-ended questions to help stimulate interest in a topic.
- Develop research skills that results in detailed and focused information.

### **Make-up Policy: This is the student's responsibility to get work missed from being absent**

1. Check the make-up notebook located in the classroom the day you come back to school
2. Check with a classmate to copy notes, etc. if necessary
3. Ask me any questions you still have *after* completing number 1 and 2 above
4. You have one day for everyday you have been absent to complete the make up work and get it turned in for a grade
5. All make-up work should be clearly labeled and placed in the basket on the shelf as soon as possible

### **Homework and Practicing Good Study Habits:**

In this class, there is not much tangible homework; however, there will be times that students will need to finish assignments from that day's lesson. There will also be times that a student will be given an assignment to work on for a time period of several days and typically a weekend.

*Reviewing that day's learning target, notes, or assignment upon arriving home will help students to retain the information learned and be prepared for the next school day. This practice is HIGHLY encouraged by all teachers!!*

### **Recovery Policy:**

Students are able to recover assignments should they earn a failing grade on Summative assessments. Students are typically asked to review the assessment and make valid corrections. The purpose of recovery in this classroom is for students to see the material for a second time and understand their original mistake. Students should ask questions if they do not understand so they are able to master the material that was their weak area. There will be a set due date for all recovery with no exceptions for late submissions.

Assessment Dates scheduled on Wednesdays or Fridays, unless otherwise stated. Should the day change, electronic Reminds and plenty of in-person reminders will be stated. ***Don't forget to sign up for classroom Reminds!!***

### **Classroom Expectation:**

- **Come to class prepared** – make sure parents know when you need paper, pencils/pens, etc.
- **Ask Questions** – when you do not understand material covered in class, I will be glad to help you!!!
- **Respect the learning environment** – everyone has a right learn so do not be a distraction
- **Always try** – Turning in something is always better than not turning in anything at all

### **Behavior Expectations: Parents please initial here \_\_\_\_\_**

I expect all students to behave in class. I do not post rules because by the time they are in 8<sup>th</sup> grade they have had at least 8 years of teachers and parents telling them how to behave in class. I expect them to know how to appropriately behave. If there is an issue that arises, *I will talk to the student first.* I believe 8<sup>th</sup> graders need to have a chance to self-correct on their own and reflect on their actions. If the problem continues, I will contact a parent. I believe that if the student knows there is consistent communication between school and home then the behavior will improve.

It is my goal to help all students be successful. I will do everything I can to help them and encourage positivity, growth and knowledge!

### **Units we will study through the year:**

- **Georgia Geography**
- **Economy**
  - Our transportation systems
  - Georgia based businesses
  - Personal money management
- **Government:**
  - Foundation of Government
  - State government
    - Executive Branch
    - Legislative Branch
    - Judicial Branch
  - Adult / Juvenile Justice System
  - Role of Citizens
- **History:**
  - Exploration / Colonization
  - American Revolution / Statehood
  - Westward Expansion
  - Civil War
  - Reconstruction
  - New South
  - 20<sup>th</sup> Century: WWI / Depression / WWII
  - Post WWII
  - Civil Rights
  - Modern Georgia

I have read over the class letter and understand the expectations for Mrs. Welch's On-Level Georgia Studies class.

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**Student Name (please print)**

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**Parent Signature**