**Mr. H. McDaniel**

**TWO Academies**

 **6th Grade Social Studies**

**Ancient Civilizations**

 **2018-2019**

Welcome to 6th grade TWO Academies and Ancient Civilizations! The information that follows hopefully will answer most of the questions you may have.

* **SUPPLIES-**
	+ One (1) 3 inch or 1 ½ inch binder , tab dividers, loose leaf paper, pens (blue or black), pencils, highlighters, ear buds- these are used for all classes
	+ One (1) large spiral notebook (5 section works best; will probably last all year)
	+ One (1) marble style composition notebook
* **EXPECTATIONS**-

These are the expectations that help the general behaviors in the classroom. I also have daily classroom procedures which help keep the classroom running smoothly. Those procedures are not given here but are just as crucial in class.

* We will be prompt.
* We will be prepared.
* We will be respectful to each other.
* We will listen and follow directions.
* **CONSEQUENCES-**

The following are the consequences:

* Verbal warning
* Break detention
* Parent contact (either email or telephone call)
* Write-up and/or Parent conference
* **UNITS OF STUDY-**

The following are the units we will cover during the course of the school year.

* + Basics of Social Studies (timelines, map and geography skills, GRAPES organizer, research skills)
	+ Early Humans
	+ Mesopotamia
	+ Ancient China and India
	+ Ancient Egypt
	+ Ancient Greece
	+ Ancient Rome
	+ Ancient Africa and Japan
	+ Middle Ages/Byzantine Empire
	+ Renaissance and Reformation
	+ Age of Exploration and Discovery
* **QUIZZES/TESTS/PROJECTS-**
	+ Throughout the year we will focus on the essential social studies skills that involve maps. Students will receive study guides for any maps that we will be working with. This gives students the opportunity to get comfortable with these skills while giving them the opportunity for continued improvement.
	+ For each unit, the students will receive a study guide to complete while we are working on the unit. We will review the study guide at least two (2) days before the cumulative test. The cumulative test includes the content, geography, and vocabulary of the material covered within the unit**.**
	+ **Students may also retake only ONE FAILED TEST per nine weeks and the two grades will be averaged together. Students will need to choose which test they would like to retake.**
	+ **Ideally, any test retake should be done within one week of the originally given test, and the last time for any retake in the week before the nine weeks is completed.**
	+ Throughout the year we will have a number of projects that will be completed in class. Some of these projects will be individual, but most will involve working with at least one other student. Students are expected to work cooperatively, as outlined in the TWO Academy Group Norms, although **grades will be assessed individually**.
	+ There will also be **two major projects**. These two particular projects are individual projects. Students will have class time to work on them but are expected to work on them at home. Students will have at least two weeks’ notice (usually much more, depending on the complexity of the project) and **are expected to complete all components and turn it in on time.**
	+ In addition, students will be required to read four articles concerning ancient civilizations and complete a summary form on each article. The summary form is found online as well as located in my classroom. I will give due dates for the summaries and articles to be turned in. There will be one per nine weeks. The articles are to be current NEWS articles about recent discoveries on ancient civilizations, written within the last calendar year; NOT encyclopedia or education website articles.
* **GRADING**-

TWO Academies uses the district’s 10 point grading scale. The grading system I will be using is a total point system. The categories of the system are also weighted and follow:

* Homework - points will vary depending on the assignment (weighted at 5)
* Classwork participation- points will vary depending on the importance of the assignment (weighted at 30)
* Quizzes- maximum of 50 points (weighted at 30)
* Tests/Projects- maximum of 100 points (weighted at 35)
* **CONSULTATION-**

Consultation will be Thursdays from 2:30-3:15 for Social Studies and **is by appointment only**. The consultation is student/teacher driven. Students will be allowed to stay if they have a test to make up/retake or if they need help with a particular skill or concept. **Retakes and makes ups of tests need to be done the first Thursday after the original test is given and no retakes or makeups will be given after the 8th week of the grading period.**  Students will need to complete a **Request to Retest** form available in class or online to inform me if they plan on staying on a particular day at least 24 hours in advance. Pick up is in the front of the school at 3:15-3:30 P.M. Please be prompt in picking up your child.

* **CONTACT-**

Please check Parent Portal and the TWO Academies website often for updated grades and information concerning TWO Academies 6th grade. I will also send emails home to inform you of upcoming quizzes, tests, projects, and other pertinent information. In order to contact me, you may use any of the following three options:

* Writing a note in the school agenda
* Telephone: 803-699-2750 ext. 72188
* Email address: hmcdaniel@richland2.org (best option)

Thank you for all that you do for your child, and if there is anything I can do to help your child succeed, please do not hesitate to call or email.

Mr. H. McDaniel