

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The 2019-2020 school year is finally here! I am Mr. Stortz, your child's eighth grade U.S. History teacher. During the course of the year, we will cover Reconstruction through Present Day. I am very excited to have your child in the classroom and I believe that by all of us working together, we can make this a very successful school year.

I am a resident of Manhattan, IL and graduated from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with a B.A. in History in 2010. I completed my Master's Degree in Educational Leadership through Concordia University in 2013. I am eager to begin my tenth year at Troy Middle School and teach a subject I am truly passionate about.

Along with this letter, your child received a syllabus detailing classroom policies and procedures. Please read and review the syllabus together with your child; it is to be placed in the front of their binder/folder for reference.

I am dedicated to helping your child succeed and ask for that same commitment from students and parents. In order to make this a successful year, you can help your child by doing the following:

1. Obtain all materials as soon as possible.
2. Work with your child to find a quiet place to study and work on homework away from distractions.
3. Ask to check your child's binder/folder on a regular basis to look for notes and organization.
4. Monitor your child's completion of homework.
5. Keep track of your child's progress online. My website **mstortz.weebly.com** contains information covered in class, upcoming due dates, as well as additional resources for class.
6. Encourage your child to seek additional help outside of class if they are struggling.

If you have stories, artifacts, pictures, or anything else you think would enhance student development, please let me know, I would like to visit with you about the possibility of sharing these artifacts with our classes.

I encourage you to call me at (815) 230-9920 Ext. 4405 or email me at mstortz@troy30c.org if you ever have a question concerning your child's progress in the classroom. This email is checked several times a day and it is the best way to reach me. Each teacher also has a class webpage which outlines daily assignments and upcoming quizzes or tests. This can be found on the Troy Middle School website. My webpage can also be found by following the following link: mstortz.weebly.com.

I consider it a great privilege and responsibility to be your child's teacher this year, and look forward to meeting each of you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Stortz

Mr. Stortz,

I have read your letter and syllabus and have reviewed the policies with

_____.

Print your son's/daughter's full name

I am committed to doing what is necessary to help my child succeed in U.S. History.

I can be reached at: (Please print clearly)

_____, or _____ from _____ to _____, or
Work e-mail work phone # hours

_____, or _____ from _____ to _____
Home e-mail home/cell phone # hours

Parent signature

PARENT:

If you wish to share additional information that would help me in working with your child, please jot a note on the back of this form or contact me via e-mail or phone.

STUDENT:

I understand the rules and expectations Mr. Stortz has for U.S. History. I agree to follow all rules, participate fully in class activities, and always put forth my best effort to achieve my full potential.

Student signature