

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am thrilled to have your child in my Advanced Placement United States History class! If everything goes as planned, your student will likely end the semester with an expanded awareness of global affairs and how the America that they know came to be. We will also spend extensive time on reading comprehension, effective writing composition, analysis, critical thinking, problem-solving, and general vocabulary development because these are the skills which transcend beyond my classroom. I truly believe in the quote, "your children will not remember what you did for them but what you taught them to do for themselves." That is why it is one of my greatest joys to help students realize their full potential.

The curriculum for AP US History is demanding in both breadth and depth. As such, it is likely that your student will have an hour of homework at least three nights a week. There are a number of tangible benefits from investing this kind of energy and effort. According to the College Board, successfully completing AP curricula improves ACT scores, college readiness and even collegiate success. Moreover, major universities would much rather see a "B" in an AP course than an "A" in a regular course. Lastly, your child may receive six hours of college level history credit if they perform well on the AP US History exam on May 10, 2019.

I want your child to do well and experience real success. My hope is that your child leaves the course with a better understanding of America's story and how they are part of it. Your child needs your support. While I know you and/or your child may be grade-motivated, it has no bearing on their acquisition of college credit. Put simply, if your child works hard to actually understand the material and prepare for the exam, their grade will take care of itself.

I am sending home the textbook with a reading guide over the first two chapters. This is a test grade. I am also asking that you read and sign this parent letter. Please have your child return the signed portion of the letter along with their

summer assignment **whenever they have their first day in my class.** The letter portion is worth extra credit. I firmly believe that clear and effective communication between myself, you and your children nets the best outcome for everyone.

If at any time during the year you need to get in touch with me for any reason, please do not hesitate to do so. I can easily be reached by phone at 938-2171 ext. 74642, or by email at rachel.kirkpatrick@knoxschools.org .

I am looking forward to getting to know your child!

Sincerely,

Rachel Kimmel

PLEASE COMPLETE THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THIS SHEET, DETATCH AND RETURN ASAP

Your child's name: _____ (1/2017)

Your name: _____ Phone: _____

Your email: _____

Please sign that you have read and understand the demands of the course and will fully support your child.

_____ date _____