

Harrison Junior School 2025-2026

8th Grade Social Studies



Teacher

Mr. Michael Berwanger

Room 307

Email Address: mike.berwanger@southwestschools.org

School Website: www.southwestschools.org

School Phone: 513-367-4831 Ext. 8721

Course Description

This is a one year course in World History from Ancient Greece to the Renaissance/Reformation. I will use a variety of different methods daily in the classroom bringing in as many different learning styles as possible.

Required Materials/Supply list

Students will be expected to bring certain course materials each day. These include:

- Plan book - Homework should be written down everyday! (even if it is NONE).
- Charged Computer and charger (after they are distributed)
- Pens (blue or black only) or pencils regular and colored pencils.
- Loose leaf paper
- A Notebook - enough for the entire year; a three-subject could be necessary if you write large or tear pages out to use.
- A sturdy folder for the class that you use for day to day papers

Resources/Technology

- Online Textbook: *Discovering our Past: A History of the United States Early Years*(Ohio) McGraw-Hill
 - Students will access the textbook on Abre.
- Student computers (must be charged and have the power cord in case)

Course Requirements

1. Attend class daily on time. Be in your seat ready to begin when the bell rings
2. Respect other students, teacher(s), substitutes, and administrators.
3. Bring all necessary materials daily
4. Turn in all assignments and projects on time
5. Prepare for and study for and complete all tests and quizzes
6. Participate in class by paying attention, taking part in group work, taking an active role in discussions.

Computer Science for Innovators & Makers

7th and 8th Grade

Mrs. Cathie Carroll

carrollc@greatoaks.com

cathie.carroll@southwestschools.org

Room 252: Harrison Jr. School

Expectations:

Come to class prepared to work. Attend class daily. Complete each assignment and turn it in on the day that it is due. You are responsible for your grade. Follow directions, do your work, listen, and turn in assignments and you will pass this class.

Materials Needed:

Earphones
Empty Milk/OJ Carton- see example
Student Planner
Highlighter
Wireless mouse (optional)
Southwest Computer
Pencil or pen for class



Outline of 18 wks.

-PLTW: Computer Science for Innovators and Makers

General description of course: We will explore the capabilities of physical computing systems. We will code using block-based code to create, download and upload programs to the micro: bit microcontroller. We will explore several types of materials that transfer electrical signals and create several input devices.

Grades:

The grading scale is based on the School Board approved Scale.
Please see your student handbook, pg. 12.

Grades are based on:

Daily assignments	Quizzes
Weekly assignments	Tests
Section Projects	

Medical Detectives/Science of Technology

7th Grade and 8th Grade

Mrs. Cathie Carroll

carrolle@greatoaks.com

cathie.carroll@southwestschools.org

Room 252: Harrison Jr. School

Expectations:

Come to class prepared to work. Attend class daily. Complete each assignment and turn it in on the day that it is due. You are responsible for your grade. Follow directions, do your work, listen, and turn in assignments and you will pass this class.

Materials Needed:

Earphones
Student Planner
Highlighter
Empty Cereal Box
Southwest Computer
Pencil or pen for class
Wireless mouse (optional)

Outline of 9 wks.

-PLTW: Medical Detectives

General description of course: During this course we will learn to collect vital signs, learn about diagnosing and treating patients, create neurons models and perform a sheep's brain dissection.

Outline of 9 wks.

-PLTW: Science of Technology

General description of course: Science impacts the technology of yesterday, today, and the future. In this unit, students apply the concepts of physics, chemistry, and nanotechnology to activities and projects, including making ice cream, cleaning up an oil spill, and discovering the properties of nanomaterials.

Grades:

The grading scale is based on the School Board approved Scale.
Please see your student handbook, pg. 12.

Grades are based on:

Daily assignments	Quizzes
Weekly assignments	Tests
Section Projects	

Rm. 252

Apps Creator

8th Grade

Mrs. Cathie Carroll

carrollc@greatoaks.com

cathie.carroll@southwestschools.org

Room 252: Harrison Jr. School

Expectations:

Come to class prepared to work. Attend class daily. Complete each assignment and turn it in on the day that it is due. You are responsible for your grade. Follow directions, do your work, listen, and turn in assignments and you will pass this class.

Materials Needed:

Earphones
Student Planner
Wireless mouse (optional)
Highlighter
Southwest Computer
Pencil or pen for class

Outline of 9 wks.

-PLTW: Apps Creator
-Google Accounts will be assigned.

Outline of 9 wks.

-Microsoft Arcade Maker

Grades:

The grading scale is based on the School Board approved Scale.
Please see your student handbook, pg. 12.

Grades are based on:

Daily assignments	Quizzes
Weekly assignments	Tests
Section Projects	

WELCOME! I'M MRS. COUCH!



This is my 11th year teaching at Harrison Jr. School. I have my bachelor's in fine arts and a teaching license from the University of Cincinnati and a master's in education with a computer technology endorsement from Bowling Green State University. Besides teaching I'm the Esports coach and you will often find me in the maker space. In my free time I love reading, playing video games and board games, watching Star Wars and Marvel movies, and spending time with my husband and our 6-year-old rescue dog, Pixie.

HOW TO CONTACT ME:

Phone Number: (513)728-8776 - Email: alexandria.couch@southwestschools.org

MY CLASSES:

Welcome to our exciting and dynamic STEAM class! This class is built around project-based learning with a focus on student agency, creativity, and hands-on exploration. Our curriculum is designed to help students develop essential skills in critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication while navigating real-world challenges.

Students will engage in a variety of thematic units, such as Digital Citizenship, Coding, Engineering, Space, and Minecraft Engineering, each with unique projects designed to spark curiosity and innovation. Whether they are designing a light-up greeting card, building a cardboard arcade game, coding a custom maze game, or reimagining a learning space in Minecraft, students will be encouraged to think outside the box and apply the Engineering Design Process to their creations. While 7th and 8th grade students will take these skills to the next level and learn to apply coding and the machines in the makerspace to their projects.

Our projects will be a mix of individual and partner work, allowing students to develop both independence and collaboration skills. As beginners, students will have the opportunity to build foundational skills while experimenting with PowerPoint, Tinkercad, MakeCode, Minecraft Education Edition, and hands-on building materials. Each week, students will tackle a new challenge, building confidence and problem-solving abilities as they go.

This class aims to foster a growth mindset, where mistakes are seen as valuable learning experiences. Students will develop perseverance, adaptability, and a love for creativity as they work on their projects.

CLASS SUPPLIES:

- Disinfecting wipes
- Tissues
- Ziploc or paper bags

Due to the hands-on and exploratory nature of our project-based curriculum, predicting specific supplies can be challenging. I will ensure that classroom sets of basic supplies are available for all students to use. Other than the above classroom donations, there are no required class supplies.

To support their individual learning paths, I encourage students to bring any additional materials that they believe will enhance their projects. This could include specialized art supplies, unique building materials, or creative components that align with their ideas. Bringing in personal supplies is entirely optional, but it can help students explore their passions more deeply.

I look forward to a year full of creativity, problem-solving, and hands-on learning!

Good day,

Welcome to Math 8! I'm so excited to begin this journey with you as we explore the building blocks of algebra and prepare for high school math. This year, you'll strengthen your number sense, learn how to solve equations, work with integers and rational numbers, and discover how math connects to the real world.

Math 8 is all about developing confidence in your problem-solving skills and learning how to think logically and critically. We'll work together through challenges, celebrate progress, and grow as learners. Mistakes are part of the process, and every question you ask brings us closer to understanding.

I'm looking forward to a fun, engaging, and successful year with each of you. Let's make it one to remember!

Sincerely,

Joshua Luckhaupt

8th Grade Math Supply List

To help you stay organized and ready to learn, please bring the following items:

Math Tools

- Pencils (mechanical or wooden) and erasers
- Scientific calculator (TI-30XS or similar recommended)
- Ruler (with inches and centimeters)

Optional but Helpful

- Colored pencils or markers (for visualizing problems)
- Sticky notes or tabs (for marking important pages)
- Pencil pouch (to keep supplies organized)

Optional Classroom Supplies

- Tissue Boxes
- Paper Towel

Good day,

Welcome to 8th Grade Geometry! I am thrilled to have you in my class this year. Get ready to explore the fascinating world of shapes, angles, theorems, and logical reasoning. Geometry is not just about lines and circles—it's about thinking critically, solving problems creatively, and seeing the world through a mathematical lens.

In our class, we'll dive into topics like transformations, congruence, similarity, the Pythagorean Theorem, and volume. You'll learn how to construct geometric figures, write proofs, and apply geometry to real-world situations. Whether you're already passionate about math or just starting to enjoy it, this class will challenge and inspire you.

I believe in creating a supportive and engaging classroom where everyone feels confident to ask questions, make mistakes, and grow. I can't wait to see the amazing things you'll accomplish this year!

Let's make it a great year together!

Sincerely,

Joshua Luckhaupt

8th Grade Geometry Class Supply List

To help you stay organized and prepared, please bring the following items to class:

Basic Supplies

- Pencils (mechanical or wooden) and erasers
- Ruler (with inches and centimeters)
- Protractor
- Compass (for drawing circles and arcs)
- Scientific calculator (TI-30XS or similar recommended)

Optional but Helpful

- Colored pencils or markers (for diagrams)
- Sticky notes or tabs (for marking important pages)
- Pencil pouch (to keep supplies organized)

8th Grade Social Studies

American History

Mr. Parks

"I am a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more of it I have."

Thomas Jefferson

Welcome to 8th Grade American History! This class will begin with American colonization leading up to the American Revolution and continue through the Civil War. Learning will take place in multiple ways. Students will have days where they will take notes and answer questions based on the material, and there will also be days dedicated to student-led work, both group and individual. I look forward to building a relationship with every student and helping them learn and grow, every day.

Materials Needed:

Every day-Computer (Needed to access the online book and class PowerPoint notes via Teams)

Writing utensil (pen or pencil is fine)

Notebook for notetaking. Spiral or loose-leaf paper.

Social Studies folder. 2 pockets will be fine

Coloring Supplies. (Colored pencils if possible)

Planbook

Any donated tissues or paper towels would be appreciated

Grading

Tests-50-100-point scale

Quizzes-10-30-point scale

Projects-20-100-point scale

Homework-5-50-point scale

Classwork/Assignments-5-50 points

A weekly agenda will be posted on the board, and on Teams, at the beginning of each week. All students will have adequate time to complete assignments/quizzes/homework. It is expected to be done and submitted by the due date. Late work will be accepted, but only for **half** credit. The work will then be graded just as if it was submitted when originally due. Cheating/Copying work will not be tolerated and a **zero** will be given to anyone involved.

Contact Information

Email-lucas.parks@southwestschools.org

Phone-513-367-4831

Purdy supply list:

Small notebook or loose-leaf paper

Personal writing utensil

Small 3-ring binder or pocket folder

Personal independent reading book (every day!)

One box of tissues (all classes)

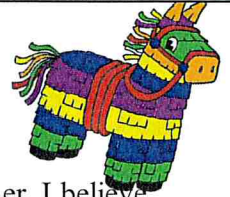
One small container of good wood pencils (bells 1, 2 & 4 only)

Small pack of fat expo markers (bells 3 & 6 only - any color)



Bienvenidos a la clase de español

la profesora – la Sra. Rudolph



This is going to be a wonderful year! I am very excited to have you in class, and together, I believe that we can accomplish a lot. My goals for you include:

School Supplies Needed for Spanish this year:

- A way to stay organized. I suggest a three-ring binder, with pockets on either side. Dividers will be provided for you. It is sufficient to include this in a large binder with the rest of your classes, if you prefer.
- Paper and pens or pencils
- Earbuds/headphones
- Dry Erase Markers – for personal use. Just keep them with pens/pencils. OR bring 2-4 markers to donate to the class stash if you'd prefer not to have to keep your own.
- A positive attitude
- Optional – a box of tissues for the classroom, anytime throughout the year.

Classroom Rules:

1. Follow the school's Core Values: Trust, Respect, Ownership, Leadership.
2. Do your own work even when working with a partner or group. (All forms of copying/cheating will result in a reduced grade, potentially a zero.) **This includes all use of computer translators.**

If you use one, I will know.

3. Try your best at all times.

***Consequences: detentions/writing assignments/grade reductions/phone calls home/office referrals

Online Communication

For this course we will be using a variety of online tools to communicate. These include:

1. Microsoft Teams
2. Microsoft One Note
3. Parent/Student Square
4. Progress Book

Participation is a MUST!

You cannot learn a foreign language without speaking it. You cannot speak a foreign language without practice! The level and amount of Spanish will vary according to class, but EVERY student must participate in class. We are here to learn; please do not be afraid to try to speak in class. Lack and/or refusal to participate will be reflected in the grade of the student. Students will earn a participation point every day for their participation and engagement in class.

Vocabulary/Studying:

The foundation of learning a language is knowing the words. Study a little bit every day. Learn 5-6 words a night, including how to pronounce and spell them (accent marks, too!) If you know your vocabulary well, you will find that the rest of learning a language will come much more easily!

Homework/Assignments:



Mrs. Watson Rm. 305

Team Titan 2025-2026

Our Mission: "Academic & Social Growth for ALL Students, Every Day!"

Our Core Values: Trust, Respect, Leadership, Ownership

Science Supply list:

Personal:

- *Charged laptop(provided)*
- 3-ring- ½"-1" binder (any color, whatever is cheaper)
- Pen/pencil (replenishable throughout the year)
- 3 x5 Index cards (replenishable throughout the year)
- Coloring supplies (crayons, colored pencils to have as needed)
- scissors (to have as needed)
- glue sticks (to have as needed)

Classroom: (optional)

- Kleenex
- Dry erase markers
- Disinfectant wipes

THANK YOU SO MUCH! Looking forward to a wonderful school year!

Ms. Wortman
8th Grade Science

Welcome!

Hello students and families and welcome to Harrison Junior School. This will mark my 10th year teaching science at Harrison. I also coach Freshman Volleyball at the High School.

I'm excited to meet all my students this year and continue into a new school year full of learning and fun.

See you soon!

Ms. Wortman

Topics of Learning for the School Year:

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
<i>Physical Science:</i>	<i>Earth Science:</i>	<i>Earth Science:</i>	<i>Life Science:</i>
Forces and Fields	Erosion, Weathering, Deposition	Plate Tectonics	Mitosis
Gravity and Motion	Topographic Maps	Earthquakes	Meiosis
Electric Charge and Static Electricity	Satellite Imaging	Relative Age	Genetics
Magnets and Magnetism	Earth Layers	Absolute Dating	Natural Selection
Electromagnetism	Seismology	Geologic Time Scale	STATE TEST
Energy			

Contact Information: Email: laura.wortman@southwestschools.org

Basic School Supplies:

- ✓ 3-ring binder OR folder
- ✓ Loose-leaf paper OR spiral notebook
- ✓ Pencils, Pencils, Pencils!
- ✓ 1 Box of Colored Pencils
- ✓ Basic Calculator
- ✓ Highlighters
- ✓ Tissue Box (class donation)

