



Jacksonville  
Commons Middle  
School

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## Mrs. Lonergan's Social Studies 8 Newsletter

### Welcome!

I am so excited to have you and your student joining my classroom for Social Studies this year! I hope everyone is ready for a challenging and exciting 8<sup>th</sup> grade year!

My name is Shannon Lonergan and I am from New York State. I moved to Jacksonville in May of 2014 with my husband, Matthew. He is a Marine stationed at Camp Lejeune. We have a 15-month-old son, Gill, and two dogs, Arnold and Harpo. Last year was my first year at JCMS. I was the EC teacher for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.



You'll have the world in your hands in Mrs. L's class!

Together, we will dive into the wonderful world of Social Studies! We will explore topics like Geography, conflict, compromise, negotiation, change, continuity, economy, democracy, and citizenship within the scope of United States and North Carolina history from the time of colonization.

As a newly recognized AVID Demonstration School, we will also be incorporating the amazing strategies of this program. These are skills that you will use in high school and beyond! AVID students are successful students!

### Communication is Key

It is a goal for me to keep our parents involved in their students learning. Please consider providing me with an email address so that I can send you our newsletters in a digital format! I also update my website every day. If a student is absent from class they should consider checking my website as soon as possible in order to get a jump start on missing assignments and content.

**Please feel free to contact me any time:**

Email:

[Shannon.lonergan@onslow.k12.nc.us](mailto:Shannon.lonergan@onslow.k12.nc.us)

Website:

<http://mrslonergansroom.weebly.com>

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910-346-6888

### Grading Policy

The grading policy is determined school-wide by department. In other words, every Social Studies teacher at JCMS follows the same policy:

- 35%: Tests
- 25%: Quizzes
- 30%: Projects
- 10%: Classwork/Homework

## Week One: 8/24 – 8/28

We will open the school year by informing students of policies, rules, and procedures that will be implemented and expected for the 2015-2016 school year. Students will establish their AVID binders, and be briefed on our new PBIS program. Look for this information to come home.

After the "housekeeping" is taken care of, we will dive into the wonderful world of geography. We will begin our study of the five important geographical themes 8<sup>th</sup> graders are expected to learn this year: place, region, human environment interaction, movement, and location.

## Reminders to Students

- Take home and return all forms
- Read your syllabus
- Make sure you have your supplies!



## Reminders to Parents

Your child will need the following supplies this year:

1. 3" 3-Ring Binder (no zip-ups!)
2. Notebook paper (no notebooks)
3. pencils and blue/black pens
4. 12-pack colored pencils
5. pencil pouch for binder
6. scissors
7. highlighters
8. 10 clear sheet protectors
9. glue sticks

## This Week's Highlights

### Monday

Welcome Back! Policies and Procedures.

### Tuesday

Did you return your forms yet?

### Wednesday

Have you paid your fees?

### Thursday

States and Capitals!

### Friday

Geography themes!

## Upcoming Events

### First Day of School

Monday, August 24

### Labor Day, No School

Monday, September 7

### First Progress Reports Go Home

Monday, September 14

### PBIS Kick-Off Dance

Friday, September 18

Visit [jacksonville.nc.ocm.schoolinsites.com](http://jacksonville.nc.ocm.schoolinsites.com) for full calendar including sporting events!

## News & Student Shout Outs

Check back weekly for other news individual student shout outs and thank you's! We are a community of learners, me included. We work as a team, and we are successful thanks to focused, awesome students like you!