

Dear Incoming 8th Graders -

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year at Dolores Middle School. We are eager to get this year started and start to prepare you for your next step in your educational careers - high school. 8th grade is one of the most exciting years in middle school, you are the leaders of the school and are considered role models for the 6th and 7th graders. You will have the opportunity to mature and take ownership of your school and your education. You are quickly transitioning into the adults that you will soon become and taking advantage of this leadership opportunity throughout the school year is crucial.

Throughout your classes you will be learning about some of the most interesting topics that the middle school has to offer. In history you will learn about the duration of the Cold War and how that impacts our lives in the modern world. We will learn about social and environmental activism, how the world has changed since the end of World War II, and ongoing issues that surround our lives. In your English class you will continue to improve your reading and writing skills, learn more about poetry, and focus on fiction, nonfiction, and drama. The students will also read *Animal Farm* which has tremendous crossover to history and Shakespeare throughout the year. Both the history and english curriculum will work towards enhancing the students critical thinking skills.

In math students will be starting to learn about algebra and geometry which are both some of the most applicable math skills for the adult world. These units in math will also be a tremendous help for students once they make that leap to high school and offer a higher level of thinking. In science this year the students will get some introduction into physics, electricity, magnetism, and sound waves. Each of these units will engage the students through various projects, labs, and hands-on activities. Each of these core subjects give students more ownership to their education and should adequately prepare them for high school.

The year will start Tuesday August 16th for 8th graders. Following the first day of class, students and parents are invited to an Open House from 5-6pm where we will share important information about the year ahead. We look forward to seeing you there and are excited for this upcoming school year! We are already excited for the memories that are to be made with this 8th grade class. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to reach out.

- The 8th Grade Team