August 9, 2017

Dear Eighth Grade Families,

I hope this letter finds you all well. I would like to officially welcome both you and your student to the 8th grade! This year is very important in preparing students for the next four years in high school and part of my job is to make sure that they are ready for that next step. At New Providence, our number one objective is to make sure students are prepared both academically and socially for high school and beyond. I take that mission to heart and hope to help prepare your student for that next step.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Rachael Thieleman (pronounced th-eel-men) and I am excited to be your child’s eighth grade history teacher. I will be teaching 8th grade social studies which focuses on the formation and early growth of the United States. This will be my fifth year teaching at New Providence and in the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System. I have been married for seven years to my husband Eric, who is also an 8th grade social studies teacher at New Providence. Together we have a son (Caiden) and two daughters (Cailyn and Camdyn).

I want to let you know some of the important information that will help get this year off to a great start. Communication is key in education, not only between teacher and student, but the parents and teacher as well. Therefore, I want to make sure that I have as many lines of communication open to you, as you are the most important person in the student’s life. The easiest and most effective way to contact me is by email, [rachael.thieleman@cmcss.net](mailto:rachael.thieleman@cmcss.net). Please feel free to email regardless of time or day; usually I will get back to you within a few hours. If you do not have email available, I have a school telephone which I can be reached during my planning periods between 9:30am and 11:00am on most days. The number is **(931) 648-5655**. If you call and I am not available please leave a message and I will contact you as soon as possible. Finally, if you desire to meet with me in person and discuss your students’ progress or if you have any concerns to discuss, please contact the front office of the school to schedule a meeting.

I encourage you and your student to use the class webpage (**www.MrsTHistory.weebly.com**) which will have all assignments, classwork and important information for your student. This is a great way for you to see what we are doing in class. Students will also be using CANVAS – where they will login at cmcss.instructure.com and click “Social Studies 8” to access assignments for this class.

I am looking forward to working with you and your child in reaching their full potential. I am confident we will have many wonderful experiences and opportunities to learn throughout the year. **For my class, students must have a one inch binder (just for history), lined paper, colored pencils, a highlighter, and a writing utensil.**

The most important thing to remember is that I, and all your student’s teachers, are here to make sure your student has all the tools and skills to be successful both now and into the future. Be sure that if there are any concerns you do not hesitate to contact us.

I look forward to a great year with your student!

Sincerely,

Rachael Thieleman

8th Grade Social Studies Teacher

New Providence Middle School