Dear Students, Parents, Guardians,

Welcome to eighth grade Core. I am looking forward to a great and productive year working together in social studies and language arts. It promises to be a wonderful experience filled with challenges, great achievements and both personal and academic growth for everyone.

In order for us all to have a successful and low stress partnership it is important that we have a clear set of expectations. So please read all of the expectations on the accompanying page and then sign and return the signature page as your agreement to follow and meet these expectations. Keep the Great Expectations sheet at home as a reminder of our agreements. Students will be given a second copy to keep in their notebooks.

In Social Studies, students will be introduced to a variety of skills and a plethora of information, both important and trivial, that will be useful and necessary later in life. Students will focus on the study of U.S. History both past and current, learning about the people, events, institutions, and ideals that have occurred to produce the world in which they now live. The social studies curriculum will be based on the text, Creating America of which students will have a copy to keep at home. We will study the geography and history of our country from the American Revolution through the Civil War. Students will become familiar and comfortable with the idea of midterms and finals and they will improve their test taking skills.

English/Language Arts will be a literature program as well as the newly adopted Amplify digital based curriculum. In either case, students will be expected to write on a daily basis with care to grammar, mechanics, and spelling. Students will learn writing skills with special emphasis on: evaluation; descriptive/narrative; argumentative and research writing. Students will successfully complete the organization and writing of a research based term paper from a well-developed U.S. history topic. Students will gain experience and confidence in public speaking as they present to the class in a variety of formats. Students will listen to and analyze popular songs for content, message, and enjoyment. In addition we will read several core novels together as a class such as The Pearl, by John Steinbeck and The Glory Field, by Walter Dean Myers as well as both fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and informational works designed to promote critical thinking and problem solving. Students will also be expected to read other books each trimester on their own.

Sincerely,

Mr. Breece
NAME:______________________________

I have read and understood all of the expectations in Social Studies/ Language Arts Core,

I agree to try my best to meet these expectations, and to work to the best of my ability.

Student signature:___________________________________________

I have read the expectations outlined and understand what is expected of my child.

Parent Signature:____________________________________________

How can I reach you if the need arises?

Best e-mail__________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian #)__________________________________________

Phone # ______________________________

Parent/Guardian #2__________________________________________

Phone # ______________________________