

Mr. Keller – Room A242
Shamokin Area Middle School

SYLLABUS/ Behavior Expectations Contract

7th Grade American History I

Dear Parent,

My name is Mr. Keller and I will be teaching American History I to your 7th grader this year. American History is an exciting subject to learn as we will explore the settlement, founding and early development of what would become our own nation. We did not get here by accident, but rather through a series of extraordinary events, amazing people and situations (good and bad), which shaped the course of our nation's existence. This class aims to examine as many of these as possible, concluding with the Civil War and the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. This letter is intended to provide you with some guidance as to classroom expectations, both learning and behavioral. *A few things your student needs to be successful in this class:*

1. **Supplies:** Please purchase a spiral-like (1 subject) notebook that can be used in class for vocabulary, notes and recording important timelines and events. In addition, a supply of pencils is vital. I will supply the book, which will be kept in the classroom and is NOT to leave the room. If your student needs to borrow a book due to (extended) absences, they may do so as long as the book is returned to me without incurring any damages – or charges may apply. All learning will be centered in the classroom this year, and ALL students will be given the opportunity to complete assignments and learning during the class period assigned.
2. **Agenda:** This is provided by the school at the beginning of the year. Important classroom events, (tests, projects, etc.), can be recorded by your student in the calendar portion for your review. Of course it is the student's responsibility to fill this in. Agendas also serve as hall passes.
3. **Parent Portal** – online grade access. This is a fantastic tool for parents to access. The link is provided on the district website (www.indians.k12.pa.us). I post grades for assignments, tests, projects, etc. so you can keep up with your student's progress in the class. Don't let your kid keep you from knowing how they are doing in class. Look it up!
4. **Behavior Expectations:** Read over these "rules" on the back of this sheet. I find that students need to know what is expected of them in class and be held accountable. Please sign the bottom of the sheet when you have read them and have your student return this to me as a "contract".

My email address is skeller@indians.k12.pa.us. This can also be directly accessed through Parent Portal. Please keep in contact with me if you have any questions or concerns about the progress of your student. Thank you.

Mr. Keller

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BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS – a contract between me and Mr. Keller.

My name is (print) _____ and I have Mr. Keller for 7th grade American History I. To be successful in class, I know the responsibility falls on *ME*. Therefore, I promise to uphold the following expectations and will accept the consequences for failing in any of these:

I PROMISE TO:

1. SHOW UP ON TIME FOR CLASS. Excessive tardiness will not be tolerated. If I show up significantly late, I will provide a late pass showing where I was and the reason for the tardy.
2. BE PREPARED FOR CLASS. I will bring a pencil and agenda everyday!!
3. TAKE CARE OF THE CLASSROOM. I will not damage any equipment in class. If I do, I know that I will be held accountable and may have to pay for the damage, including but not limited to: books, desks, chairs, tables, computers, etc. I will not vandalize classroom furniture, equipment, or litter the floor.
4. USE APPROPRIATE CLASSROOM LANGUAGE: Cursing and bullying will not be tolerated. Cursing and bullying may lead to classroom dismissal and a write-up – or harsher consequences as determined by Administration.
5. NO FOOD OR DRINK: including water. Exceptions made for those with health passes from the school nurse (medication issues, etc.). This includes gum too.
6. NO CELL PHONES!!!! As per the school district policy on cell phone use, I know my phone may be taken by any teacher and turned in to the office for further disciplinary consequences if I have my phone out whether turned on or not. If my parent needs to reach me, I know they will contact the Main Office to get in touch with me. Remember: keep the phone packed away and turned off during class.
7. I WILL TRY MY BEST IN CLASS! I know that Mr. Keller never “gives” grades. I earn my grade in this class. I will try my best to complete assignments, pay attention, take notes as needed and follow through when given opportunity to do so.

I sign this contract with my name and will have my parents sign it too and then turn it back to Mr. Keller when due.

X _____ (student signature) Date: _____

X _____ (parent signature) phone and email: