

## **Bayside Middle School Social Studies Parent Curriculum Guide**

### **5th Grade:**

The fifth grade social studies course will help develop a greater understanding of United States History. This understanding will be achieved by examining Early Native Americans, the Age of Exploration, Colonial America, the American Revolution, and the development of our government. Students will learn how these topics have influenced the foundations of our nation, society, and government. They will also develop an understanding that people's lives are affected by culture, geography, and economic principles and decisions.

Units include:

- Map Skills
- The Age of Exploration
- Colonial America
- The American Revolution
- The New Nation
- Westward Expansion

### **6th Grade:**

The focus of sixth grade social studies is to develop a greater understanding of ourselves and others through cultural investigations of world history. This understanding will be achieved by examining time periods from ancient river valley civilizations through Medieval Europe. Emphasis will be given to exploring the past through the lens of culture as defined by its many components including geography, belief systems, technology, social structure, government, communication, economics, and the arts.

Units include:

- Culture
- Early Hominids
- Ancient Mesopotamia
- Ancient Egypt and the Near East
- Ancient Greece
- Ancient Rome
- Ancient China
- Ancient Arabia
- Ancient Inida
- Current Events - ongoing throughout the year

### **7th Grade:**

The seventh grade social studies curriculum explores the physical and human geography of the seven world regions. Students will gain an awareness of our ever-changing environment through an examination of economics, government, current events and the five themes of geography including location, place, human-environment interaction, movement, and region.

Units include:

- USA and Canada
- Latin America
- Europe and Russia
- Southwest and Central Asia
- Oceania and Australia
- Africa
- Monsoon Asia

### **8th Grade:**

The eighth grade social studies curriculum focuses on bringing students closer to events that have shaped the United States as we know it today. Beginning with the study of the US Constitution as a framework for government, students focus on the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship. Subsequently, students examine American History from the Civil War to the end of the Cold War, focusing on important people, places, themes, and events that will guide their understanding of the historical past's connection to the present day.

Units include:

- Civics
- Civil War
- Reconstruction
- The Rise of Industrial America
- Conflict: World War I and II, Korea, Vietnam, and Persian Gulf
- The United States Emerges as a World Power (1910-1917)
- The Unsettled Decade (1920s) and the End of Prosperity (1930s)
- World War II and the Holocaust
- Civil Rights
- The Cold War and Times of Turmoil (1946-1980)