**8/29/16**

**Dear Parents/Guardians,**

Welcome to our 2016-2017 school year! The Wheatland Middle School social studies teachers are delighted to present our vertical plan for instructing your students with the National History Day curriculum and competition. You may know that NHD is a district, regional, state, and national competition that asks students to question history and research/present a project based on a new theme each year. This year’s theme is…



Historically, this project has been presented and delivered differently by each teacher and grade level. In order to streamline this project and make sure that your students receive the best and most useful experience possible, the teachers have joined together to create a plan.

6th grade: Learn how to “Think Like a Historian” (Stanford University), learn and implement Cornell Notetaking, become familiar with www.nhd.org, identify time periods and topics to meet the theme, research a topic meeting the theme, and work through the NHD process for completing a display board project in groups. Timeframe= all year long. No competition required.

7th grade: Continue to build on learning from previous year. Students will have product and grouping choice. Competition opportunities will be made available to any interested student. Timeline – students will receive instruction in intensive period during 1st and 2nd marking periods. Projects will be due in December.

8th grade: Build on learning in previous years to deepen research. All 8th graders will produce a 2000-2500 word essay. Competition opportunities will be made available to any interested student. Timeline - September to November.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to your child’s social studies teacher!

***Thank you,***

***Kim Kurau (6th grade), Karen Sanders & Steven Houseman (7th grade), Sheri Curry & Jon Shultz (8th grade)***