

Students,

Welcome to your 8th grade year here at Richards Middle School. I am Mr. Shively and I am looking forward to educating you as well as getting to know each and every one of you. It will be an exciting year.

I am assigning you a summer duty. It is very important that you complete this assignment before you come back to school. The assignment is to go to NHD.org and read about this year's theme and rules. You do not have to pick a topic or what type of project you will be doing, but understanding what is expected of you when you do come back is very important. You and I will sit down upon your return and discuss your ideas together. I will be here to assist you every part of the way.

I believe this is one of the most important projects that you will be working on this school year. This project will help you immensely and assist you in your endeavors as you move beyond middle school and into the higher grades including college and beyond. The skills you will learn will give you an advantage when it comes to learning how to be organized, time oriented, increasing your ability to research, use of technology as well as writing and communicating. This is important for you to know. Think of it this way, you are trying to get into a school which is very competitive. You will be more advanced in your education when compared to others who don't get to participate or choose not to participate in NHD.

Remember, this is a research project first and not a competition. The competition part only goes to those whose projects I deem better than the rest and invite you to attend the regional competition in March 2026. It is at this time that it becomes a competition. All students who attend my class will participate in this endeavor.

I believe in trust and respect. In saying this, I am trusting you in completing this assignment over the summer break. I will be having you sign off that you did this along with your parent's signature vowing that you did actually complete this reading.

I can't wait to see you!

Mr. Shively

8th Grade Georgia Studies

Richards Middle School