

Mr. Nicholas Aguina ([Nicholas.aguina@chsd117.org](mailto:Nicholas.aguina@chsd117.org))

Lakes Community High School, Office Room C125 (Blue Team Room)

Office Hours: Before School: 7:15 – 7:30 am

After School: 2:50 – 3:15 pm

Monday (Late Start): 10:25 am – 11:05 am and 12:40 – 1:20 pm

Tuesday – Friday: 9:25 – 10:15 am and 12:10 – 1:00 pm

Website: [www.mr.aguina.weebly.com](http://www.mr.aguina.weebly.com)

### **Social Studies Department Philosophy:**

The LCHS Social Studies Department is committed to providing a strong base for students to succeed in school and in life. Students will gain the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes to understand, respect, and practice the ways of a scholar and citizen. Most importantly, the LCHS Social Studies Department is committed to shaping and developing productive members of society.

- Coursework accounts for approximately 85% of your overall grade, and the final exam will be worth approximately 15% of your overall grade.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

American Government is designed to provide our students with the necessary knowledge and skills to participate effectively in the American political process. Students will gain a strong understanding of how federal and state governments operate, how the government's actions affect individuals, and the role of citizens in the democratic system. Class activities include research and exploration, written projects, group discussions, and simulation activities. This class will prepare students for the required examinations on the Illinois and United States Constitutions.

### **Course Topics**

1. Foundation of Government
2. Political parties
3. Legislative Branch
4. Executive Branch
5. Judicial Branch

### **Required Class Materials – EVERYDAY**

1. 1 ½” BINDER – This will be needed for unit binder checks!
2. Notebook
3. Writing utensils
4. Binder!
5. Positive attitude!

### **Course Policies and Procedures**

The LCHS student handbook outlines school wide policies, regulations, procedures, and discipline. All will be adhered to and upheld in the classroom. Please more information on the following, please reference the pages in the student handbook:

- Attendance Interventions (p. 16)
- Academic Dishonesty / Plagiarism (p. 26)

### **Late Work Policy**

#### *Daily Make-up Work*

Students are responsible for obtaining any work missed and making it up in the time allowed (see LCHS handbook p. 17 for clarification). Once work has been completed please submit it for grading.

#### *Multi Day/Large Assessment Make up*

All assessments need to be made-up. It is the students' responsibility to schedule a time to make-up the assessment. Once an appointment/turn in date is scheduled it is the student's responsibility to communicate any changes.

### **Make-up Work - Excused Absences Policy**

Students are responsible for obtaining any work missed and making it up in the time allowed (see LCHS handbook p. 17 for clarification).

### **Expectations**

- 1.) ***Show respect for all people in the classroom at all times.*** Each one of us has the right to listen and be heard in this classroom. We have the right to appropriately express ourselves without fear of ridicule or harassment. We have the right to learn in an environment that respects our physical, emotional, and intellectual safety. Infractions will be dealt with swiftly and seriously.
- 2.) ***No sleeping/heads down in class.***
- 3.) ***Be on time for class everyday.*** The tardy policy outlined in the student handbook (review student handbook online) applies and will be enforced.
- 4.) ***Eating and drinking in the classroom are fine, as long as they do not create a mess and are not distracting to the learning environment.***

***Cell phones and other electronic devices should not be a distraction to my teaching or your learning.*** Technology should and will be celebrated and used in the classroom. However, when this is not on the agenda for the day, please keep all devices muted and out of sight.

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Please read the attached pages containing the behavioral expectations, grading procedures, and course content for your child’s social studies class. Once you have reviewed these pages with your child, please sign and return this form. Feel free to contact your child’s teacher with any questions or comments you may have.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student’s full name-print), have read and understand the expectations for Government class. I will do my best to follow these expectations.

**Student’s Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian’s name-print), have read and understand the expectations for Government class. I will do my best to support and guide my student through Government this school year.

**Parent/Guardian’s Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred contact email:** \_\_\_\_\_

You may also use this page to indicate any questions or comments that you may have. I am especially interested in hearing your thoughts on how I can best support your child as a learner in my classroom.

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