Welcome to AP U.S. History! Advanced Placement United States History (APUSH) explores the history of the United States from pre-colonial times to the modern era with an emphasis on understanding the political, social, economic and cultural forces that have given shape to the nation. In addition to gaining a mastery of the important names, dates and events essential to a proper understanding of US History, students will develop skills in the critical analysis of historical documents and other sources in order to better understand the past and make meaningful connections with the present. Thoughtful analysis of historical sources will also allow students to construct substantive arguments and essays related to key themes of America’s past and present.

Email is the best way and I will be checking it at least once a week throughout the summer.
Email: maria.indrehus@ccsdre1.org  Home: 303-567-2709, Leave your name, message and return number.

By June 5th

1. Get the book from our Bookkeeper, Michelle Barnes. *America's History for the AP Course*, 8th Edition, by James Henretta, Eric Hinderaker, Rebecca Edwards & Robert O. Self. CCHS is purchasing the textbooks at a discount and students must purchase directly. The cost for the text is $110. **Do Not Purchase Online, you will pay more and for the wrong text!** The APUSH exam is changing this year and students will be disadvantaged if they do not utilize the new publication. You must make all arrangements with Michelle…go talk to her this week.

   **It is not necessary to purchase APUSH study guides.** Students often get overwhelmed with too many study guides. Notes, activities and textbooks will be sufficient.

2. Organization is the key to conquering a history class. You will need A LOT of notecards (about 1000), a binder, paper and dividers. Label as follows.

   1 – Handouts (put this packet here, along with syllabus)
   2 – Reading Notes (Ch. 1-4 Reading Notes go here)
   3 – Essay Materials
   4 – Returned Exams/Work

   **Begin no later than July 21st. These are due on the first day of class.**

   Our textbook has 31 chapters! Therefore, we have do some work over the summer. All of the work is due our first day of class.

   1. Read Ch. 1 and outline it. I have provided an outline if you would like to use it. In addition, make notecards for each of the **Terms To Know** listed at the end of each chapter.

   2. Read Chapters 2-4 and outline them. In addition, make notecards for each of the terms at the end of the chapter. You may not type the outline at any time. Writing the information will help you learn the material!

   **Notecards (These should be stored in a shoebox or something you can tote around without losing them.)**

   The front of the card should have: the concept or phrase in the center and page number where it came from in the text in the top right corner. The back of the card should have a complete thought that corresponds to the concept or phrase on the front that a) defines and b) lists significance. Concepts should also include an example when general. Look for general and/or historical significance.

   For specific people, be sure you have the name and page number. The back of the card should have their significance to U.S. history. MLK, Jr. would include his significance to civil rights.

   While studying with the stack, make three piles: a) cards you recognize and can answer immediately, b) cards you recognize and can answer eventually, and c) cards you do not recognize. Reshuffle group’s b and c, and start over again. The idea is to get all cards into group a. When that is complete, move on to another set of cards.

   Do not spend more than 15 minutes studying notecards at any given time. Success will come in small doses!
CHAPTER 1: COLLIDING WORLDS, 1450-1600

The Native American Experience

Thesis:

- The First Americans
- American Empires
- Chiefdoms and Confederacies
- Patterns of Trade
- Sacred Power

Western Europe: The Edge of the Old World

Thesis:
- Hierarchy and Authority

- Peasant Society

- Expanding Trade Networks

- Myths, Religions, and Holy Warriors

West and Central Africa: Origins of the Atlantic Slave Trade

**Thesis:**

- Empires, Kingdoms and Ministates

- Trans-Saharan and Coastal Trade

- The Spirit World
Exploration and Conquest

*Thesis:*

- Portuguese Expansion
- The African Slave Trade
- Sixteenth-Century Incursions