**Social Studies 8: Unit One Project – Civilizations**

As we finish our unit on Ancient Civilizations it is important to understand how they can rise and just as easily collapse. Many empires have become powerful but have had troubles maintaining their strength due to various reasons. The goal of this project is to create your own civilization where collapsing will not be an option.

**Procedure:**

1. Get into groups of 3-4.
2. You will create your OWN civilization. You are NOT permitted to “fix” an ancient civilization.
3. Review how these civilizations rose to power, collapsed and/or maintained their strength for centuries.
4. Below are some guiding questions to assist you.
   1. Part One: Introduction
      1. What is the name of your country? Why did you come up with this name?
      2. Where is it located? How does climate affect your civilization? 🡪 Be detailed
      3. What laws are you implementing into your country? Type of government?
         1. Should someone break your laws, what is the consequence? Why?
      4. Will you have a social class ranking system?
         1. If **yes**, explain or illustrate it.
            1. Why did you place these individuals there?
         2. If **no**, explain why everyone is equal and any potential ramifications.
            1. How will you stop natural social divisions? Example: some people will earn more money or land etc.
      5. What jobs **need** to be filled within your civilization
      6. What language will you use for communication?
   2. Part Two: Research
      1. Below are some guiding questions to help you create a strong civilization
         1. How are you going to stop impending attacks?
         2. Will you permit all cultures, alternative religions and people with different customs than you into your own country? Why or why not?
         3. What is your civilizations stance on slavery? Explain.
         4. How will you spread land, wealth and resources to all of your citizens? How will you solve the issue of citizens receiving more than others?
         5. What factors influence your economy? Example: is a manor more valuable than a farm? How will trade influence your economy? Who will you trade with?
         6. What kind of religion or worship are you practicing? Polytheistic? Monotheistic? Are you combining religion and government?
         7. What role does art/architecture play in your civilization?
         8. Is imperialism an option for your civilization?
            1. If **yes**, how will you efficiently invade surrounding countries?
            2. If **no**, what will you do when your resources ultimately deplete?
   3. Part Three: Map
      1. Create a map to indicate where your civilization is in congruence with other countries.
      2. Be sure to color your map as well.
5. Be sure to work together on this project as it requires lots of work
   1. It is highly recommended NOT to divide the parts up, but rather work collectively as one in each part.
      1. This is because all parts are critical to one another and if one part does not relate your entire empire could fall.
6. You can create parts 1 and 2 any way you want. Below are some recommended ideas
   1. Powerpoint
   2. Prezi
   3. Cardboard Poster
7. Your presentation should be between 6-10 minutes. The class will then get 5 minutes to ask you about your civilization as well. **Note:** They are also new countries with something to prove. Their task is to find issues with your civilization and your goal is to defend it at all costs.
8. This project will be due

**Evaluation:**

Introduction /10

Research/Content /20

Map /10

Presentation/Defending /20

Total /60

* Note: Presentation is marked separately for each member of the group