

from the desk of...

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Dear Parent,

Welcome back to another school year! I will be your child's World History teacher this school year. I know you always receive piles of papers from school the first week, but I wanted to take a minute to introduce myself, and explain to you some of the resources that you, and your child, will have available to you this year.

This is going to be my fourth year of teaching at Central Dauphin Middle School. I try to stay very active here at school. Currently, I serve as the advisor for Student Council, the advisor for the musical stage crew, and the technology integration facilitator for our school. I also try to make sure I attend all of the monthly PTA meetings.

As I'm sure you will hear from your child later in the year, we use a great deal of technology in our classroom. We use a SMART Board Interactive Whiteboard and a touch-screen podium. Our classroom is currently the only one in the district that has a permanent set of Senteo Interactive Response remotes. These handheld remotes allow students to be more engaged during lessons by answering questions and giving their input at the press of a button. During different projects, students will also be utilizing various online resources created specifically for our class.

A resource I'd like to make sure you are aware of is our classroom website. This website, www.mrcermak.com, has been designed to keep you up to date with everything going on in our classroom. It also contains various resources for both you and your child to use from home. These include things like an online textbook, podcast reviews before tests, iPod flashcards, and several extra credit opportunities. There is also a classroom Twitter account that will keep you up to date with everything from project and test dates to schedule changes. Probably most important aspect of the site is that it allows you to sign up to receive an e-mail every day with the homework assignments for all of your child's classes.

As the year goes on, please let me know if there is anything that I can do to help seventh grade go smoother for your child. My contact information is at the top of this letter, and our classroom website also has ways to contact me – including the ability to send a message directly to my cell phone if you have an urgent message. Please do not hesitate to contact me anytime, about any issue.

Sincerely,

Glenn H. Cermak