

March 2019

Dear Parents and Families of 7th Graders,

The 7th grade social studies teachers would like to cordially invite you to our 44th annual Medieval Market at A. E. Wright Middle School on the morning of Friday, March 29th, from 11:00 AM to 11:45. You are welcome to travel back in time to such towns as Majorca, Mali, Calicut, Cairo, and Quanzhou where merchants and traders will display their wares, craftsmen will demonstrate their skills, and various entertainers will perform. The Market will be held on the basketball courts at the north end of the campus, behind the District Office.

To make life a little easier for you on the day of the Market, we have arranged for the drop off and storage of Medieval Market paraphernalia at school on Thursday, March 28th, between the hours of 3:30 and 6:00 PM. Just turn in the north driveway and go to the back of the school to the gym. There will be teachers there to supervise and secure the gym overnight. With almost 300 students participating, we must ask you not to try to drop off large items and arms full of stuff on Friday morning. If you must wait until Friday morning to bring things, please come **before 8:10**. Students are expected to be in period 1 on time at 8:50 AM, and PARENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO SET UP FOR THEM. There will be plenty of time provided for the students to set up prior to the opening of the Market.

Helpful information for guests:

1. Parents and guests should plan to arrive in time for the **Opening Procession at 11:00 AM**. Parent participation in the market will take place from 11:00 - 11:45. The Market is primarily an educational activity and teachers have 35-150 students to check and evaluate in a short time, so **guests cannot be permitted into the area until after set-up and grading have been completed**. Please honor the teacher's time during this grading period and be respectful to those who are trying to keep the Market running smoothly.
2. The Market is arranged in 'trade cites' according to teacher. We would appreciate it if you would use the 'streets' that are laid out rather than cutting through city walls and city blocks.
3. Because this day is set-up to allow students to learn about economics as well as history, students are to trade amongst themselves. Parents and guests are time travelers who may sightsee, and admire all the students' hard work and creativity, but must not take part in the trading.
4. All students must actively assist in the clean up because this is a part of their grade. Students will be dismissed when the Market area is clean to the teacher's satisfaction. Teachers will not dismiss students before that time.
5. Parking is always at a premium for the Market. Please park in the north lot by the District Office; after that, use the left side of the car loop or Las Virgenes road for additional parking.

We thank you for your support and cooperation and hope that you'll be able to join us on March 29th.

Very truly yours,
The 7th Grade Social Science Team

Important caveat: IF there is the possibility of rain on the day of March 29th, we will make a "game time decision" as to whether we should postpone the event or somehow move it indoors. I understand that this may create disruption, but it is the only way that we can try to get the whole 7th grade together for this event. We will make that call by Thursday, March 28th, midday.