Dear Parents,

I am looking forward to teaching your child Honors Sociology. This class is a behavioral science that examines human society and social behaviors. Students will be asked to examine and analyze social behaviors and societal problems. They will do this through researching various data and theories, pull from their own experiences, and then formulate conclusions. They will then compare and contrast these conclusions.

The things we will cover are as follows: Unit 1: Sociological Perspective and Research – 2 weeks, Unit 2: Culture – 2 weeks, Unit 3: Social Structure – 2 weeks, Unit 4: Socialization – 2 weeks, Unit 5: Social Institutions – 2 weeks, Unit 6: Deviance – 2 weeks, Unit 7: Inequality and Stratification – 3 weeks, Unit 8: Social Change – 2 weeks and Final Exams – 1 week. Mixed in with these units will also be current events and a project based of global health initiatives and health field topics.

Each student is expected to complete the readings and assignments on time so they can have a successful evaluation. Since this is an honors class, it is expected that all students will be prepared, will engage in relevant discussions and conduct themselves as honor students. I will tailor this class to the interests of the students. My ultimate goal is to have a class that is not only interesting and fun, but also a class that can be useful to the upperclassmen in their very near, future endeavors. In order for this to occur, we needs as many unique ideas and perspectives as possible.

We will utilize textbooks, videos, periodicals and various activities and projects to provide the best education possible. Tests will compromise 50% of a student’s quarter grade. Another 35% comes from quizzes and classwork, and the final 15% comes from homework. There is a final exam in this class. **SENIORS**: I will strictly follow the senior exemption policy as outlined in the student handbook. A minimum grade of 60 is required to pass each quarter and the class.

At Athens Drive we will have Athens Advantage Time. This is time during the school day where students can make up missed assignments or work to improve their grades. Any student with a grade below a 75 or that is missing an assignment will be required to stay in Advantage Time to complete make up work. Advantage time for all classes will be connected to the period a student has that class on Wednesdays. All students will remain in class during Advantage time, but only those with a grade below a 75 will need to be making up work. “Power schools” (if it’s not down) allows students and parents to check grades throughout the year. I update grades every week for viewing.

I will have a class website. It is westbrookclasses.weebly.com.

Important Dates: **OPEN HOUSE:** September 5 @ 6:00 pm. **INTERIMS:** Week of September 23 and Dec 2.

If you have any concerns throughout the year, you may call me at 233-4050, and I will return your call. I also have an email address, which is the best way to contact me; wwestbrook@wcpss.net. Again I am excited about teaching this class and look forward to working with your son or daughter.

Respectfully,

Ryan Westbrook