

Cherry Creek Schools Dedicated to Excellence

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Hello and welcome to back to school night. I am excited to meet everyone responsible for the wonderful students in my class. I hope this night provides you with some insight into who I am, both as a person and as a teacher.

I was in the Cherry Creek School System for my entire K-12 education, attending Homestead Elementary, West Middle School, and Cherry Creek High School. After graduating Creek, I attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where I studied History, Political Science and Classical Humanities. After my undergraduate stint, I continued at UNC Chapel Hill where I received my Masters in Teaching.

A few bits of information that may help you stay up with what is going on in our History Class this year:

- 1) I have created a website, <u>www.mrknoeckel.weebly.com</u>. On it, you should find anything you want to know about the course: what we have done and what we are planning to do. This website also has my contact information if you ever need to reach me.
- 2) I check my email on a regular basis, and this is probably the best way to get a hold of me. However, if you ever need to get in contact with me immediately, my phone number is 720-554-2290.
- 3) While I am more than happy to answer questions you have over the course of the year, please know that first and foremost, I would like students to be advocates for themselves. I think high school is an integral part in your students' development as adults, and it is important for them to practice dealing with issues that may arise.

While Creek and college taught me many fun stories and interesting facts, they also taught me how to think. I hope your students learn lots of the facts and stories we are going to cover throughout the year, but it is my main hope that by the end of the year, they will be better at thinking for themselves, at examining situations, and at understanding the world around them.

I am very excited for the year we have ahead of us. I have loved history for as long as I can remember, in large part due to the many wonderful teachers I had while I was here at Creek. I hope your students enjoy this class as much as I do. Again, if you have any questions, please call or email me (<u>dknoeckel2@cherrycreekschools.org</u>). I look forward to getting to know you and your students over the coming year