

High Expectations Mean High Results

I've always felt it is important for people in any profession to understand what is expected of them to be successful. Early in my teaching career I was influenced by an experienced educator to have clear and concise expectations for my students. With that in mind I decided to develop a simple check system that I could hand out to all students during the first class. The time spend going over the list was well worth it. The form was printed on 4 x 5 card stock and the students were told to use it as a bookmark during the year.

The card was titled, "**Twelve Keys to Success in U.S. History.**" The students were told this was the formula for success and they should follow it as closely as possible. The card was also very helpful during parent conferences. If the student was experiencing difficulties, reviewing the success formula with the parent was very meaningful.

Twelve Keys to Success in U.S. History

1. **PMA** – *Believe in your ability to learn.*
2. **Attendance** – *Always be in class on time.*
3. **Participate** – *Ask questions and volunteer for activities.*
4. **Take Notes** – *Write down essential facts.*
5. **Desire to Learn** – *Constantly be in search of more knowledge.*
6. **Homework** – *Find the time to complete all assignments.*
7. **Respect Others** – *Be a good listener and tolerate individual differences.*
8. **Follow Directions** – *Read instructions carefully.*
9. **Challenge Yourself** – *Work to your full potential.*
10. **Teamwork** – *Cooperate with others on group projects.*
11. **Stay Alert!** – *Eat healthy foods and get plenty of rest.*
12. **Have Fun!** – *Learn to laugh at yourself and with others.*

Follow these hints and you will do your best in U.S. History

----- Mr. Collar -----