Middle & Senior High Social Studies

What your child will be learning and what they will be able to do...

Look at the political cartoon to the right

Teacher Questions/Student Answers in Secondary Social Studies:

What are the symbols in the cartoon and how do they assist you in deciphering meaning?  Good Student Answer: The symbols are Uncle Sam holding a weapon, representing the fact that the U.S., although claiming to be neutral, was lending arms to Britain. Another symbol is Hitler, representing Germany’s opposition to U.S. lending weapons practices. Finally, Uncle Sam’s response, “It would be dynamite if I didn’t,” drives the message home regarding the precarious situation that the U.S. was in prior to entering World War II.

To help your child in social studies, try some of the following:

- Discuss community issues and problems at home and talk about ways to solve the issue or problem.
- Identify the core democratic values when they are part of a story in the news (life, liberty, pursuit of happiness, rule of law, free speech, freedom of religion, common good, justice, equality, diversity, popular sovereignty, patriotism).
- Discuss current events and engage in “why” and “how” conversations with your child; for example: Historically speaking, explain why countries behave in certain ways and how the U.S. views such actions.
- Analyze local, state, and national social movements and relate them to history.

What to Read and Use? Primary and Secondary Sources, Political Cartoons, Newspapers, Magazines like Time, Newsweek, & National Geographic, Watch the news and discuss! Read BLOGS on topics of current events AND discuss!

For a complete description of grade level courses, instructional resources, and programs related to social studies, please visit MDCPS’ District Social Studies Website: http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net