AP
GOVERNMENT
GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION & EXPECTATIONS: AP US Government & Politics will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This one-semester course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific contemporary examples. It also requires students to familiarize themselves with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute our political system. The major topics to be examined are:

- Constitutional Underpinnings of United States Government
- Political Beliefs and Behaviors
- Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Mass Media
- Institutions of National Government
- Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
- Public Policy

Because this course is the equivalent of a college course, and in order for students to perform well on the AP Exam, students must meet very high expectations and share the responsibility for mastery of the course objectives. This involves the careful reading of the textbook and supplemental readings, active participation in class, knowledge of current events for class discussions, and as much dedicated study time as each individual student may need to master the material.

AP Grading and exam:
The AP exam is comprehensive, covering material from the entire term. Students enrolled in the course will require to take the exam in May, allowing them the opportunity to earn college credit.

AP Grade Qualification
5- extremely well qualified
5- well qualified
3- qualified (3 and above earn college credit)
2- possibly qualified
1- No recommendation

Needed supplies:
- 1-2" binder with paper and dividers
- (work book) Steps to a 5 – AP Government and Politics – by Pamela Lamb (Can be purchased at Barnes and Noble, Ebay, Amazon, etc. around $15)
- Pencil/pen
- a positive attitude ☺