Welcome to the Olympic Games of 476 A.D!!

**Introduction**

Greece was an amazing group of City States and has left a lasting impression on our world, from our alphabet, impacts on science and philosophy, art and architecture, our political structure and even a huge impact on our sports of the day. They even invented the Olympics!

**Simulation**

![d:\Users\teacher\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\M9E3W2SZ\100px-Olympic_rings_with_transparent_rims.svg[1].png]()You will be involved in a LARP (Live Action Role Play), which will involve significant preparation and culminate in the Olympic Games and many associated activities. You will be divided into 5 major **City States** (groups of maximum 5) OR you can compete as an **independent**.

There 5 important city states to choose from: ATHENS (2) (scholars/artists), SPARTA (2) (warriors), CORINTH (traders), and ARGOS (musicians/artists) and DELPHI (home of the Gods). Choose by lot your team.

As part of a **City State** you will be responsible for the following:

1. **POSTER/PORTFOLIO**

Creating a poster or portfolio presentation (eg powerpoint, Prezi, Powtoon) the way of life of your region will include:

1. Geographical map including understanding of landforms in region, 2. knowledge of industry, trade and resources in the region, 3. Unique God foundation 4. Political structure, 5. Significant contributions (science, art, medicine, architecture, philosophy, warfare, etc.) Keep it short and concise. Minimal words, more pictures, 5-6 slides max equivalent.

1. **FLAG and ANTHEM**

The flag and anthem you create will be used in the opening procession. Both should reflect your values and way of life that you researched. The **flag** needs to contain symbolic meanings that you can explain (e.g. brown represents the importance of earth for agriculture or the sword represents the warlike nature), the **anthem** can be a poem, chant, song, rap, or something like this and again should reflect much about the culture. The **slogan** is a short phrase no more than 10 words you can chant during the competition.

1. **GAMES**

Each City State is to research, adapt, prepare and execute 1 'traditional' (some leeway here) Olympic sporting event. We will brainstorm in class and divide up and you must find a fun, all accessible and even playing field game to represent this event. Students must compete in a minimum of 1 event each.

1. **Myth or Legend (extra marks)**

The Olympics were also a chance for social gatherings. During the down time in the "Evening", sharing of myths and legends would have surely occurred (remember they all had the same Gods). Prepare a myth or legend that you will dramatize/read for us. Need not be highly professional in terms of costumes, but the presentation of it should be smooth and dramatic. Greeks did not use a lot of props.

1. **UNITE GREECE!!**

As you have learned, it is near impossible to unite such a geographically challenged region. However, we will pretend that this Olympic Games, there will be a political forum where they will pick a leader from a region that is felt will best represent the needs of ALL Greece. Prepare a speech which outlines why your City state should represent all of Greece's interest. You will address the critical question: "What do we offer Greece that makes us the best City State to represent Greece?"

1. ![d:\Users\teacher\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\M9E3W2SZ\100px-Olympic_rings_with_transparent_rims.svg[1].png]()**Strategize Alliances**

As the games go on, you are to schmooz the other City States, forming alliances that will serve and possibly save you in the future. People liked to fight back in the day and since few people attacked Greece itself, they would occasionally fight amongst each other. Create strong alliances with others, but remember they may be playing you. At the end of the Games we will see how you fared.

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**INDEPENDENTS**

Perhaps some of you will prefer to work alone. If you do, your task will be different. Your role will be as historian. You will choose a topic and enlighten us on the wonders of Ancient Greece, teaching the City States more about their culture. Your tasks are as follows:

1. **Portfolio** - Find a location or choose a location that existed and develop your own culture based on the nature of the region. Hypothesize how your new City State would develop based on #1 above. (e.g. Aegena, Antioch, Thebes, etc.)
2. **Share** something unique about the Greek culture during the Myth circle, using the below topics as a guide.
	1. Art of the Age
	2. The Seven Wonders of Ancient Greece
	3. Philosophy
	4. Stories/structure of the Gods
	5. War
	6. Another topic of interest to you not covered in City States.
3. **Strategize** alliances

**Grading**– Grades will be formulated through observation, performance, knowledge of material, neatness, presentation, teamwork, strategy, and creative thinking.

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| **SPARTA** |

**You are a Spartan!** Be proud! You have endured unbelievable pain and hardship to become a superior Spartan soldier and citizen! Taken away from your parents at age 7, you lived a harsh and often brutal life in the soldiers barracks. You were beaten by older children who started fights to help make you tough and strong. You were often were whipped in front of groups of other Spartans, including your parents, but never cried out in pain. You were given very little food, but encouraged to steal food, instead. If *caught* stealing, you were beaten. To avoid severe pain, you learned to be cunning, to lie, to cheat, to steal, and how to get away with it! Some of you are members of the Spartan secret police and enjoy spying on slaves. If you find a slave who is showing signs of leadership, you have orders to kill them immediately. You are fierce, capable, and proud of your strength. You know you are superior and are delighted to be Spartan!

**Spartan Goals and Behavior at the Olympics:** Win at all costs. Lie, cheat, do whatever it takes. If you can't win, at least beat your archrival, those silly citizens of Athens. You are the proud and fierce Spartans! Dress alike with matching arm bands or buttons. Be loud but polite to your teacher who is your superior officer. Be on time. Be disciplined. Keep records. Make up a chant for Sparta, and chant it, while marching in unison, wherever you go. Make up a secret salute, and salute your fellow Spartans. Plot secretly with other Greek city-states to sabotage any Athenian chance at victory. Cheer only for your fellow Spartans at each event. Lie, cheat, steal, but do not get caught, because that is the Spartan way. Good luck at the games.

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| **ATHENS** |

**You are an Athenian!** Be courteous. You have been superbly educated in the arts and the sciences, and trained to be extremely productive and capable in times of peace or war. You are an achiever. Until age 6 or 7, you were taught at home by your mother, or by a male slave. From age 7-14, you attended a day school in the neighborhood where you memorized Homeric poetry and learned to play that magnificent instrument, the lyre. You learned drama, public speaking, reading, writing, math, and perhaps even how to play the flute. You attended four years of higher school, and learned more about math and science and government. At 18, you attended military school for two additional years! You are proud to be an Athenian! Famed for its literature, poetry, drama, theatre, schools, buildings, government, and intellectual superiority, you have no doubt that your *polis*, Athens, is clearly the shining star of all the Greek city-states.

**Athenian Goals and Behavior at the Olympics:** You know your archrival, those horrible Spartans, will do anything to win, even lie and cheat, but you are Athenians - you would never stoop to such boorish behavior. Cooperate with your fellow Athenians to defeat those brutish Spartans, and do your personal best! Say witty things to impress representatives from other city-states. Be courteous to all Greeks, no matter what inferior city they represent. Make up a clever chant for Athens, and sing or say it each time an Athenian wins an event or a makes a witty comment. Shake hands with your fellow Athenians, whenever you greet them. You are Athenians, the clever, creative, courteous representatives of that shining example of all that is fine and noble, the *polis* of Athens. Good luck in the games!

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| **CORINTH** |

**You are a Corinthian!** As a coastal city-state, you have a glorious history as a cultural and trade center. Although your schools are not as fine, perhaps, as those of Athens, you have been educated in the arts and the sciences. As a child, you were taught at home by your mother, or by a male slave. From age 7-14, you attended a day school near your home where you memorized poetry and studied drama, public speaking, reading, writing, math, and the flute. You attended a higher school, if your parents could afford it. You also went to military school for at least two years. Your *polis* is famous for its bronze statues, pottery, and vase painters. You are creative problem-solvers. To solve the problem of foreign money pouring into your coastal *polis*, your city-state created it's own coinage, forcing traders to convert their coin at your banks. (For a fee!) To solve your problem of unemployment, you created a huge and successful public works program. Literature, culture, art, and businesses thrive in your city-state. You are proud to be a practical, productive Corinthian!

**Corinthian Goals and Behavior at the Olympics:** If you can't win, help Argos and Megara to defeat those vain Athenians, and those animals, the Spartans. Do what it takes, but be honest about it. You cheer the winner of each event, whoever that might be, and greet your fellow Corinthians with warmth and good sportsmanship whenever you see them. You do not need the nonsense of secret handshakes or salutes. You roll your eyes each time you see one. You are Corinthians! You are proud of your abilities, your achievements, your honesty, and your obviously superior city-state. Good luck in the games!

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| **ARGOS** |

**You are an Argive!** You have been educated in the arts and the sciences, and trained to be productive and capable in times of peace or war. You have much of which to be proud. Although your close neighbor, Corinth, is on the coastline, your *polis* is located on a plain, where the weather tends to be hot and dry in the summer, and cold and wet in the winter. Your soil is not especially fertile, and you must fight the elements to grow food. In spite of this hardship, your magnificent stone sculptures of athletes, rippling with muscle, are the envy of many a Greek city-state. You are famous for your wonderful musicians and poets. Drama reached new heights in your *polis*. Plays are performed in open-air theatres, drawing crowds of 20,000 or more Argive citizens! Unfortunately, you have a problem. When Athens and Sparta asked your *polis* to send supplies and troops to fight the Persians, after the battle of Thermopylae in 480 BCE, you refused. For this decision, you are held in disgrace by the other Greek city-states.

**Argive Goals and Behavior at the Olympics:** Your goal is to reverse the negative reputation you currently hold in the ancient Greek world. You will have to work hard to convince other city-states that your athletes, soldiers, scholars, orators, architects, poets, dancers, and artists are as fine, if not superior, to the other city-states. You cheer Argive victories, and win as many events as you can. Your goal is to make sure that Athens and Sparta don't win at all. (Your plan is to throw your support to Corinth or Crete toward the end of the competition if it appears you can not win.) You are Argives, hard-working, honest, loyal, clever, creative, courteous representatives of Argos, and of her glorious past. Good luck in the games!