2016-2017

NOTABLES PRESENTATION

A BIOGRAPHY RESEARCH PROJECT

5TH GRADE

**Notable** \**adj.* worthy of note; striking: remarkable; eminent. \**n.* an eminent person. **\****adj.* distinctive: extraordinary, unmatched, outstanding, unforgettable; famous, important, distinguished \**n.* dignitary, VIP; *colloq.* big shot. Bigwig, *sl.* big cheese

You are to research and write a first person biography (a type of “autobiography”) of a notable person of your choice. You will be presenting your information in the character of the notable person. Costumes and props make for a more interesting presentation, but **accurate, interesting information** is the most important part.

**Step #1:** Select at least **5 possible people to research**. Some options: a historical person, an author, a famous scientist, mathematician or inventor, an artist (painting/drawing). Think carefully about your choices:

* Pick a person whose interests and accomplishments you’re interested in.
* Do you like to dress up – or prefer a simple costume?
* Pick a person you don’t know EVERYTHING about already.

We will NOT be choosing athletes, movie stars, popular entertainers/singers, or infamous people (those noted for criminal or negative actions). Only one fifth-grader per Notable!

**Due Date: Thursday, December 14, 2016**

* **We will assign Notables before break, but if your top choices are taken, we may need to finalize your ultimate assignment in January.**

**Step #2:** You must find AT LEAST 3 different sources of information on your Notable.

Sources include: - Web pages

- Books, Encyclopedias & Other Reference Books (print and online)

- Magazine Articles

You will have library time at school to search for sources, but you can also use materials from home or the public library. Sources must be recorded on the appropriate forms. Wikipedia is good for background information but will NOT count as a source for this project. (*If you cannot locate 3 different sources, maybe your choice isn’t really Notable! Might be good to select another person – see your teacher.)*

# Due Date: Friday, January 13, 2017

**Step #3:** Take notes on your person using the note-taking packet your teacher gives you in December. Notes should be in your own words.

**Ongoing throughout December and January**

**Step # 4:** Complete a time line featuring at least 7 important dates in the life of your Notable. Use the sources you have selected to list these dates – the planning sheet is in the note-taking packet. You also will complete a final draft.

# Due Date: Friday, January 27, 2017

**Step # 5:** Write a first-person account of the Notable’s life. Use the information you have gathered, but write it as though **you** **are the person.**  (“I was born…”)

We will work through the steps of the writing process in class: taking notes, using the time line, writing a rough draft, revising, editing, and writing a final copy.

# Due Date: Rough Draft – Wednesday, February 8, 2017

# Final Draft – Thursday, February 16, 2017

**Step #6:** Draw, by hand, a portrait of your Notable person. You will use a picture from a book or online source for a model, but the portrait will be drawn by you (no tracing!!). Portraits will be drawn in class and then hung in the hallways.

# Due Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017 (done in class)

**Step # 7:** Complete a backdrop for your display in class. The backdrop should include your name, birth and death dates, the reason you were notable, your time line, a map of where you lived/worked, and possibly a famous quote from or about your Notable person. It may include additional graphics – computer-printed or hand-drawn.

# Due Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017

**Step #8:** At home, prepare your costume and gather your props. Practice what you will say to visitors – how will you answer their questions? Examples of questions include: “When were you born? What was the world like then? What was your greatest accomplishment? Are you still alive today, and if so, what are you doing nowadays?”

**Step #9:** Presentation of Notables! Each Notable will stand in front of his/her backdrop in costume and with props, if possible. Visitors will walk around and talk with each Notable. You must be prepared to answer questions about yourself! The format is similar to a “wax museum” in which each student talks individually with visitors as visitors walk around the room.

**Thursday, March 2, 2017 will be the Presentation of Notables**

* **This is the culminating event for the project – it is required for all students!**
* **During school: For Horizon student visitors**
* **6:30-7:30 p.m.: For families (please make arrangements to be here for this required event!)**