Feedback and Reflection (April 21)

Submit the reflection, and a summary of the teacher feedback in the GoogleSite by April 21. Anything after this time will be considered late and will be graded accordingly. Reflection on the process should include:

- What did you learn about collaborative planning session with this teacher (both good and bad)? What might you do differently next time?
  - The collaborative planning session with Mrs. Retallick was very productive. She was eager to work with me and wanted to find different ways to teach researching skills. She also wants to infuse technology into her lessons. Mrs. Retallick shared with other staff members that we were working collaboratively. This opened the door for working with other teachers. When I met with her to explain the work I had done she invited 3 more teachers to the conference. All 3 of them will be using the collaborative unit plan and scheduling me to work with their classes. The hard part of the planning was finding a time that worked for both of us.

- Which of Donham’s roles did you play in collaborative planning session?
  - Looking through Donham’s roles of the library media specialist I would say I was an elaborator, encourager, initiator, and a summarizer. Mrs. Retallick explained the Civil War unit that she wanted me to work on with her. I elaborated on the unit and added many pieces. I created a LibGuide that basically has the whole unit in one place. Previously she would have to pull up PowerPoints to show the class. Now they are available for the students from the LibGuide. The handouts are all on the LibGuide which allows the students to get to them if they misplace theirs. I also added YouTube videos to enhance the lessons. As an encourager I offer support to the teachers as they go outside of their comfort level when working with technology. An initiator suggests new or different ideas. I suggested that the students should be given a choice of how to present their research. Originally the students had to present using a PowerPoint. Now they will have the choice of using Google Presentation, or Prezi. As a summarizer I am good at bringing all the thoughts together and giving a conclusion.

- What was original assignment suggested by teacher?
  - The original assignment suggested by Mrs. Retallick was to research an aspect of the Civil War, write ideas in a 5 paragraph essay format by using PowerPoint, creating an MLA bibliography, and presenting to the class.

- Did you change the assignment in any way? How might you change it to move it to a higher level if you were not able to do this with teacher?
  - I did change the assignment by adding different options for presenting to the class.

- What level is assignment in Bloom’s Taxonomy?
  - Analyzing - The students will have background knowledge of the American Civil War through reading literature. With this information they will develop an
essential question used for research. With the research they will break the information into parts to explore understandings and relationships.

- Evaluating - The students will assess their research using techniques presented in mini lessons. They will critique websites and sources for validity and justify reasons for using sources.
- Creating - Students will construct and design a product to present to their peers. They will have choice of format for creating their presentation. They will be introduced to PowerPoint, Google Presentations, and Prezi. They will be generating the product in their own view.

○ How can the assignment be adapted to meet individual differences?
  ○ The assignment can be adapted to meet the needs of individual learners. The students will be choosing a topic of their interest which should help with motivation. The notetaking portion of the assignment can be done in many ways. Students can take notes using note cards, notebook paper or electronically on PowerPoint or Google Presentation. Students are also given a choice of which tool they want to use to complete their project. Some students may rely on PowerPoint since it is in their comfort zone while others will explore other tools to present such as Google Presentation or Prezi.

○ How can the information skills instruction be adapted to meet individual differences? (Also incorporate this into your lesson plan)
  ○ The information skills can also be adapted to meet the individual learners. The skills are presented by the teacher, using a PowerPoint, and YouTube videos. There is practice time given and students are surveyed to find out their comfort level after practicing. Teachers can then go back and reinforce and reteach as needed. Information is provided on the LibGuide so students can revisit topics as needed.

○ What motivational strategies have you integrated into the information skills lesson? (Also incorporate this into your lesson plan)
  ■ To motivate the students I incorporated different strategies. I added YouTube videos to offer another way to present lessons taught. I added many resources on the LibGuide. Another motivational strategy is to offer different tools to complete the project.

- Teacher Feedback:
  ○ I met with Mrs. Retallick, her student teacher, and two other 8th grade Language Arts teachers to present the Civil War Unit and lesson plan. The teachers were blown away by the LibGuide. None of them had seen one before. Mrs. Retallick was amazed to find her original PowerPoints added to the LibGuide. She noted how they were updated to fit the revised unit. She had her student teacher working on completing descriptions of the books used for the literature circles and was pleased to find the books on the first page of the LibGuide with descriptions already there. They loved the YouTube videos and feel that they will add meaning to the lessons. The resource page has all of the books available in the middle school media center listed that relate to the Civil War with their call numbers. This tab also has the websites that Mrs. Retallick originally used. The sites were all tested as some on her list are no longer available. They also liked the surveys, but noted they will need a lesson on Google Docs. We went over the unit and planned it out on a calendar. I then added the calendar to the LibGuide using Google Calendar. I was originally planning on working with only Mrs. Retallick, but will be working with all 4 of the teachers. I guess it just goes to show that doing good things will pay off as others see the benefit.