

Grade : 8th Grade Impacting the Community					
Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5	Unit 6
Sept-Oct	Oct-Nov	Dec-Jan	Feb-Mar	Apr-May	May-June
Alternate Dimensions	Get On Board Raising Awareness of Issues in the Community	I've Got the Power Persuading People to Change Our Community	Growing Up is Hard to Do Becoming an Integral Member of a Community	Act Out Plays that Impact the Community	Welcome to My World Impacting My Community
Science fiction, fantasy and alternate realities that mirror real life	Social Awareness and Campaign Writing	The Power of Persuasion and Speech Writing	Rites of Passage and Comparative Essays	Dramatic Plays that Deal with Working towards solutions to issues in the community	Presentation of community service proposal
<u>Guiding Questions:</u>					
Do I make an impact? How does helping the community change who I am? What can I do to help?					
<i>How do journeys into other worlds prompt action in our own?</i>	<i>How can I raise awareness of a social issue? What is the most effective way to raise awareness and rally support in my community?</i>	<i>How are our decisions influenced by the power of voice? How can I best influence others through speech writing and delivery?</i>	<i>How does a rite of passage bond a person to their community? Does this bond create a stronger drive to help the community?</i>	<i>What can dramatic texts show us about dealing with real-life issues in the community? How can drama be used as a tool to affect change in a community?</i>	<i>How can impacting the community impact who I am?</i>
Enduring Understandings ◆ Exploring other worlds can underline truths about our own community and show where action is needed.	Enduring Understandings ◆ Before you can enact change you must raise awareness and rally support.	Enduring Understandings ◆ Our voices can be used to affect change.	Enduring Understandings ◆ Rites of passage help to invest individuals in their community.	Enduring Understandings ◆ Dramatic acts may be vehicles for change in a community.	Enduring Understandings ◆ When we help the community we change ourselves as well.
Summative Assessment					
Students will write a short story that follows all the elements of the genre and that deals with a character	Students will study a contemporary social issue in their community. They will create a campaign that	Students will study various persuasive, emotive, and entertaining texts that reflect various issues and themes that impact the community.	Students will read their own novel where a character goes through a rite of passage and will write a paper using a	Students will create a short one-act play about characters that must work together to change something in their	Students will research a community service opportunity that they could see themselves

impacting their community.	includes pamphlets, letter-writing, posters, petitions, and audio and digital public service announcements that will promote awareness of that issue.	This unit focuses on the tools of speech writing. Students will write their own speeches on an issue of interest or of personal importance utilizing tone, emotive language, persuasion, figurative language, and descriptive language. This unit aims to highlight the creative dimension of the non-fiction speech genre.	critical theory lens, such as feminism, colonialism, psychoanalysis, and reader response.	community. This play will be performed or videoed.	participating with in the future. They will create a step-by-step action plan with rationale about why they chose that particular service learning project, how they can be a part of it, why that service learning project is worthwhile, and how they see it impacting who they are as an individual and why that particular service learning opportunity fits their individual personality, skills, and interests. Project will be graded on the research into a service learning project, thoughtfulness in the outlining of the action plan and the justification of the rationale.
WORD WORK, ACADEMIC LANGUAGE, CONTENT VOCABUALY AND ORAL FLUENY WORKSHOPS					
Science fiction, alternate, dimensions, fantasy, journeys, dystopian, utopian, parallels, plot, characterization, conflict,	Awareness, social issues, campaign, pamphlets, initiative, PSA, petitions, promotion, non-profit, contemporary, audience,	Speeches, voice, impacting, effectiveness, emotive language, speech patterns, intonation, visualization, repitition, elocution, imagery.	Critical Theory, feminism, colonialism, psychoanalysis, reader response, rite of passage, inter-textuality, adaptations, self realization,	Drama, dramatic personae, foreshadowing, dramatic irony, symbolism, irony, stage cues, dialogue, dramatic reading,	Service learning, contribution, worth, value, social consciousness, obligation, justification,

resolution, rising action, falling action,	advertising, perception, purpose Advertising techniques: bandwagon, trend-setting, facts and figures, patriotism, diversion, plain folks, snob appeal, testimonial, simple solutions, saturation		maturation, identity, context, intention, understanding, responder,	monologues, fourth wall, elements of production, monologues, acts scenes. Realism, melodrama, tragedy, comedy.	rationale, action plan, forecasting
READERS WORKSHOP					
<p>Chart students' prior knowledge of the characteristics of the science fiction and fantasy genre.</p> <p>Model and practice analyzing science fiction and fantasy books for connections to reality and the lessons being taught through the stories.</p> <p>Model and practice how to analyze fiction for techniques the author uses to describe and create an alternate worlds and non-human characters through language.</p> <p>Model and practice how to recognize the parts of</p>	<p>Chart students' prior knowledge of the techniques employed in advertising and media campaigns.</p> <p>Model and practice how to analyze the techniques that advertising and media companies uses in order to raise awareness of issues in the community and sell a product.</p> <p>Model and practice how to analyze the language and visuals in advertising and media presentations.</p> <p>Model and practice the differences and similarities between different media types, such as commercials, pamphlets, posters, etc. How are different techniques used with different media for the</p>	<p>Model and practice how different speeches are effective in persuading the audience to agree with a particular stance.</p> <p>Model and practice how to analyze various speeches for entertainment, intonation, figurative language and persuasive techniques and how the speaker/speech writer was able to impact the viewer/reader/listener.</p> <p>Model and practice analyzing speeches on mundane topics in order to highlight the power of good speech writing and the techniques employed, rather than simply the topic chosen.</p>	<p>Chart students' understandings of various rites of passage and discuss why they are important to a community and its cohesion.</p> <p>Model and practice how to analyze a text for character growth and how an author illustrates changes in a character through the story.</p> <p>Model and practice how essays analyze text through different critical lenses to explore what the text is saying about the community. Teach and explore: context, audience, the role of the responder in creating meaning,</p> <p>Model and practice how to make meaningful connections to literature to recognize that</p>	<p>Recognized the structure, techniques and format of drama.</p> <p>Model and practice how a play communicates a message through dialogue and action.</p> <p>Analyze the use of stage directions, props, lighting, elements of production etc to further communicate and strengthening meaning.</p> <p>Identifying elements of varying genres of drama.</p> <p>Model and practice dramatic readings.</p>	<p>Model and practice analyzing texts where social action contributed to the personal growth of the person or character.</p> <p>Model and practice how to research social action opportunities, including internet searches, in-person visits to organizations, non-profit organizations, etc.</p> <p>Model and practice how to read an action plan, including analyzing how the author created the outline and justification. Analyze cause and effect and contributing factors.</p>

<p>story structure (conflict, setting, characterization, climax, resolution, rising and falling action).</p> <p>Model and practice how to analyze text for the features of science fiction and fantasy.</p>	<p>same purpose and the different purposes that use the same techniques.</p> <p>Model and practice how to determine the audience that a particular advertising campaign is geared towards.</p> <p>Model and practice how graphics and words are placed in print ads and posters.</p> <p>Model and practice how to compare and contrast two different media campaigns.</p>		<p>the time and place that a text is read influences understanding.</p> <p>Practice the skills involved in literature circles and independent reading.</p> <p>Guide students towards appropriate age level and reading level independent books.</p> <p>Guide students on how to create their own critical opinions of a text.</p>		
WRITERS WORKSHOP					
<p>Chart students' concepts for alternate dimensions, worlds, and non-human characters. Have students create their own original world with visual depiction and words.</p> <p>Chart students' depictions of a perfect community or world.</p> <p>Chart students' ideas on science fiction and fantasy stories they would like to write. Stories</p>	<p>Chart students' ideas of social issues that they think the public needs to be aware of.</p> <p>Model and practice how to employ advertising techniques to raise awareness of a community issue.</p> <p>Model and practice how to research a community issue in order to effectively raise awareness of the issue to others.</p> <p>Model and practice how to use</p>	<p>Chart ideas that students have on contemporary issues in the community that they are passionate about and wish to engage viewers and listeners</p> <p>Model and practice how to write an effective speech, first looking at mundane topics in order to practice and experiment with different techniques of effective speech writing.</p>	<p>Model and practice how to write a response to generic quotes in order to practice response skills and regents prep.</p> <p>Model and practice the form and structure of critical lens essays.</p> <p>Model and practice how to turn connections and responses to literature into formal writing pieces. Differentiation: Use terminology of critical theory within paper.</p>	<p>Model and practice how to write effective dialogue and how communicate plot in dramatic format.</p> <p>Model and practice one-act playwriting, including stage directions.</p> <p>Model and practice writing a production portfolio for own one-act play, including rationales of concept, costuming, lighting, props etc.</p>	<p>Model and practice how to write an step-by-step action plan.</p> <p>Model and practice how to effectively create the justification for a proposed plan. Use knowledge of cause and effect and contributing factors to forecast the impact of their community service plan on themselves as individuals and the community.</p>

<p>should employ the students original concepts for a world and characters. Stories should explore a problem in our community and illustrate ways to solve them using the science fiction/fantasy genre.</p> <p>Model and practice how to employ the structure of a short story to lend form to their story ideas.</p> <p>Model and practice how to create original characters and settings using graphic organizers, such as bubble maps.</p> <p>Use the peer review process to revise and edit stories for clarity, meaning, structure, grammar, spelling, and punctuation.</p>	<p>visuals and language choice in order to impact the viewers.</p> <p>Model and practice how to write a comparison essay in order to compare and contrast different media campaigns.</p> <p>Model and practice how to create print ads and pamphlets that will impact a particular audience.</p>		<p>Use peer review process to revise and edit papers.</p>		
LISTENING AND SPEAKING WORKSHOP					
<p>Work In groups and pairs to improve writing.</p> <p>Work in groups and pairs to analyze literature.</p>	<p>Discuss the promotional techniques that affect the students' as viewers and consumers. What commercials do they remember? Why?</p>	<p>Model and practice how to use variations in intonation, dramatic reading, movement, and speech patterns to engage listeners and viewers when presenting a speech.</p>	<p>Work in groups and in pairs to improve writing skills.</p> <p>Work in groups to analyze different critical standpoints (have students role-play by</p>	<p>Improvisation and ice-breaker activities: tap griot, charades, mime, freeze-frames etc.</p> <p>Workshops in transforming</p>	<p>Practice giving presentation of their service learning projects to the audience.</p> <p>Role play various</p>

	<p>Model and practice how to speak clearly and effectively to convey meaning to the audience.</p> <p>Work in groups to improve ad campaigns and to practice presentations.</p>	<p>Listen to various speeches to analyze them for the use of intonation, speech patterns, movement, and dramatic readings.</p>	<p>taking on different schools of thought's points of view and discuss text). This will help to define various viewpoints.</p>	<p>plays from page to stage. Students swap scripts and perform to test actor's interpretation of original scripts and then compare/contrast to writer's original concept and intention.</p> <p>Rehearsing one-act plays</p> <p>Rehearsing dramatic extracts</p>	<p>conversations that may have to take place for their action plan to come to fruition.</p> <p>Work in groups and in pairs to improve social action plans.</p>
CONVENTIONS: SPELLING/GRAMMAR/USAGE/MECHANICS					
EMBEDDED TECHNOLOGY					
<p>Video presentations of science fiction and fantasy movies and television clips.</p>	<p>Model and practice how to create digital, video and audio presentations.</p> <p>Video and audio presentations of commercials and PSAs</p> <p>The use of Photoshop in advertising.</p>	<p>Audio and visual presentations of speeches.</p> <p>Student's speeches on video or podcast.</p>		<p>Videotape, review and edit own one-act plays.</p> <p>View examples of dramatic productions to analyze elements of production and compare to written screenplays.</p>	<p>Internet searches, PowerPoint presentations, Word with imbedded visuals.</p>
SUGGESTED LITERATURE					
<p><i>The Martian Chronicles</i> and other Ray Bradbury, <i>The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</i>, "Button Button," <i>The Golden Compass</i> <i>Artemis Fowl</i></p>	<p>Advertising by Ben Milton</p> <p>The Teen Guide to Global Action: How to Connect with Others (Near & Far) to Create Social Change (Paperback) by Barbara A. Lewis</p>	<p>The Teen Guide to Global Action: How to Connect with Others (Near & Far) to Create Social Change (Paperback) by Barbara A. Lewis</p>	<p>Core Text: Flowers for Algernon Tears of a Tiger by Sharon Draper</p> <p>Modified <i>Jane Eyre</i>, <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>, <i>Huckleberry Finn</i>,</p>	<p>A Doll's House by Ibsen</p> <p>Novio Boy – Gary Soto</p> <p>"The Monster's Are Due on Maple Street"</p>	<p>Biographies of Oprah, Bono, and other social activists.</p> <p>The Teen Guide to Global Action: How to Connect with Others</p>

<p><i>Labyrinth</i> the movie <i>X-Files</i> and <i>The Twilight Zone</i> television shows</p>	<p>The Kid's Guide to Social Action: How to Solve the Social Problems You Choose-And Turn Creative Thinking into Positive Action (Paperback) by Barbara A. Lewis</p> <p>Various commercials, online non-profit websites, PBS, PSAs</p>	<p>The Kid's Guide to Social Action: How to Solve the Social Problems You Choose-And Turn Creative Thinking into Positive Action (Paperback) by Barbara A. Lewis</p> <p>Various audio and video presentations of speeches (MLK, RFK, JFK, Malcolm X, Obama, Oprah, Churchill, Hitler, etc).</p>	<p><i>Extremely Close and Incredibly Loud, Outsiders, That Was Then This is Now, Go Ask Alice, Feathers, Dogsong</i></p>	<p>Modified Romeo and Juliet</p> <p>Modified Classic plays and one-act adaptations, compilations</p>	<p>(Near & Far) to Create Social Change (Paperback) by Barbara A. Lewis</p> <p>The Kid's Guide to Social Action: How to Solve the Social Problems You Choose-And Turn Creative Thinking into Positive Action (Paperback) by Barbara A. Lewis</p>
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