Unit 4 – *Coming to America* – Informational Unit

Start Date 2/9/15

Unit Essential Question: – What do experiences with others teach people about themselves?

In this unit, students will be reading and analyzing informational texts about the immigration experience.

Unit Expectations/Learning Targets

I can:

Reading

* determine the meaning of figurative language.
* explain why an author used specific words and phrases.
* determine an author’s point of view and purpose.
* explain the strategies the authors use to convey their perspective – sarcasm, irony, exaggeration, anecdotes, imagery, personal reflection
* analyze how two authors writing about the same topic shape their ideas differently.
* analyze how sections of a text contribute to the whole and to the development of ideas.

Writing:

* introduce a topic.
* develop a topic with relevant facts, concrete details, quotations and examples
* use appropriate transitions to clarify relationships.
* use strategies such as compare and contrast.
* provide a concluding statement.

Unit Texts:

* Funny in Farsi by Firoozah Dumas
* Of Beetles and Angels by Mawi Asgedom
* “1905: Einstein’s Miracle Year” by John Schwartz from New York Times Upfront
* “Shutting Out the Sky: Life in the Tenements of New York 1880-1924” by Deborah Hopkinson
* The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros
* In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson

# America Street: A Multicultural Anthology of Stories by Anne Mazer

* Article – “Relive a Boy's Journey to America”
* Obama Immigration Reform Speech: 'The Time Is Now'

Independent Reading

Students will independently the following novel throughout the unit and complete assigned activities.

Unit Learning Activities include but not limited to:

* Admit/Exit Tickets
* Reading Responses
* Gallery Walk
* Ink/Think/Pair/Share
* Debates
* Socratic Seminar
* Fish Bowl
* Round Robin Discussions
* Jigsaw Classrooms
* Idea Wave
* Close Readings
* QARS
* Annotations
* Reciprocal Reading
* Self-Evaluations
* Peer Tutoring
* Reflections
* Memoirs and Poetry Writings
* Interviews
* Timelines

*Student Suggested Activities*

* The Spoken Word
* Role Play

Assessments and Projects

* Short Response Questions
* Selective Response Questions
* Discussions
* Presentations
* Group Tasks
* Independent Tasks
* Quizzes
* Mid Unit Assessment – *March 4, 2015*
* Formal Writing – March 13, 2015
* Performance Task *- March 16, 2015*
* Final Exam – *March 20, 2105*

Formal Writing Task

Culminating Task