



Excellence

Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District

50 Kennedy Drive, Plainview, New York 11803

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Science, Research and Technology Chair K-12

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January 2011

Dear Mattlin Middle School 8th Grade Families,

The Plainview-Old Bethpage Enrichment for All experience extends to our 8th graders by having each student conduct an interdisciplinary inquiry-based research project with the support of Mrs. Barry, the POB Science, Research and Technology Chair K-12. The topic of this year's research endeavor is *Responsible Citizenship*. Students will identify a specific example of how people can be responsible citizens. All students will work independently on a topic of their personal interest.

In conducting their research, students will engage in authentic research. They will be building on the interdisciplinary project that they started at the end of 7th grade. They will brainstorm the topic, find specific areas of their interest, learn how to use the library and internet for the purpose of finding reliable sources of information. Students will develop a thesis and find reliable documents that support as well as offer a counter argument to their thesis. Students will share their findings in the form of a persuasive letter.

Throughout the next 5 weeks, Mrs. Barry will conduct lessons in collaboration with the classroom teachers on each phase of the project in your child's science, social studies and ELA classes. Students will be given specific assignments to complete for each phase and are encouraged to keep all papers in the folder distributed during the first lesson. These assignments are designed to help students learn to budget their time and stay on track so that they can produce their personal best research project in the end. Mrs. Barry will offer students support throughout the project. There will be a link on the POB website where students and parents can access worksheets, schedule and rubric.

We hope you will support your child in this endeavor. We've found that when families become involved the experience becomes much more enjoyable. Your child will receive the rubric and schedule during the first classroom session.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact me. It is best to reach me via e-mail at jbarry@pob.k12.ny.us or leave a message by phone at 516-937-6370 ext 331.

Sincerely,

Joyce Thornton Barry
Science, Research and Technology Chair K-12