



THE ROOST REPORTER



The Newsletter of Record for Sixth Grade

March 8, 2019

Passage Pointers for Parents

Your sixth grader just finished the first round of feedback on his or her Reflecting on Rochester piece. It was a productive session and kids will have the rest of the week to firm up their body paragraphs and tackle the background paragraph before we move on to intros and conclusions next week. We are hoping to have a FINAL draft of Reflecting on Rochester completed by March 22nd so we can return from our Eight Cities trip ready to begin the remaining three reflections.

Several parents have asked how they can support their child. Well, we want you to be involved, but not too involved. It can quickly go from a student task to parent homework (and we have had to deal with this in the past) so here are some practical tips:

- Check in on the progress and process. Students have time in class to work on their essays, but it will require some home time to type and revise ideas. Do they have time scheduled? Are they making the most of that time?
- Talk about the topic - why did they choose this? What did they learn from research? Why does it matter to Rochester? This helps students make connections between claims and evidence.
- Review the rubric! We've gone over it in class and used it as part of feedback - can they identify places where their work in a solid pass? Do they have a bibliography?

There will be the temptation to proofread the work, revise it, clean up all the little errors but STOP yourself. Sixth-graders are being assessed on their writing abilities - not yours! Still unsure on how to support your child? Drop us an email and we'll chat.

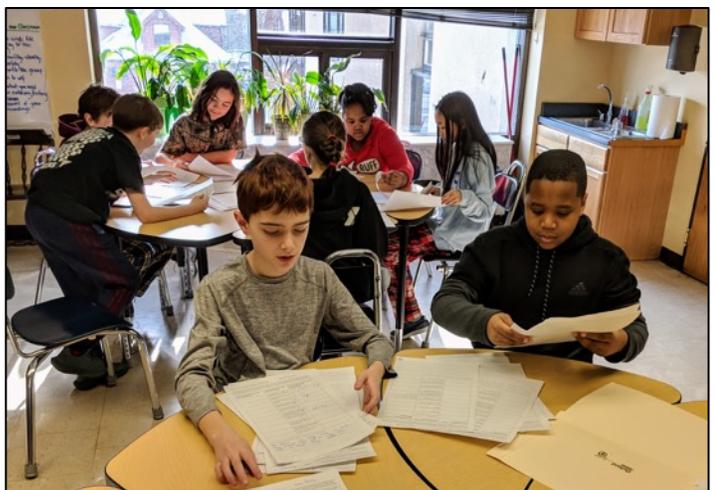
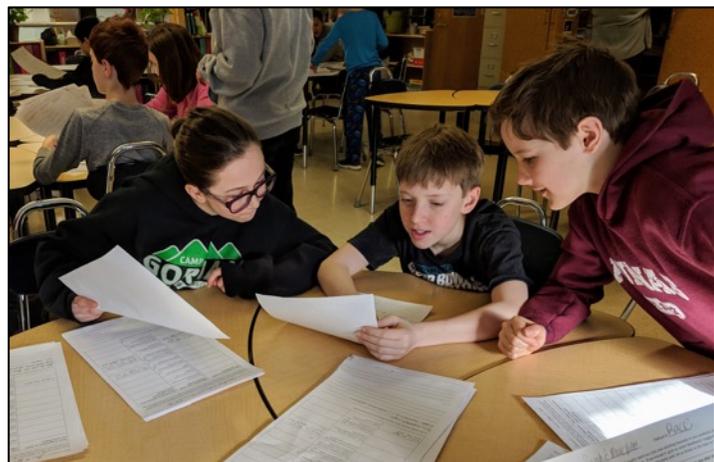
Simon Says...

- ✓ **Podcast Feedback** - Thanks so much for your comments during exhibition. We will be revising scripts and re-recording/ editing our work to make it ready for sharing with the community.
- ✓ **Conference Day** - Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for Thursday, March 21st, from 11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Please email us if you would like to schedule a time to meet and talk about your child's progress.

Moving Forward in Math

Next week concludes our introduction to algebra and we will be moving on to ratio, rate, and percentage shortly. Algebra in sixth-grade is meant to ease students into understanding equations, variables, and their real-world uses (how often have you asked yourself "when will I ever use this?"). Well, as students found out this week, algebra can be used to determine so much more than the value of "x." We looked at how inequality statements work on a number line and in a table (and found out how to determine independent and dependent variables). From there we could apply them to all sorts of situations, from budgets for birthday parties to purchasing to travel. We will have an assessment next week and math menus will be due by week's end.

We will celebrate the circle next Thursday, March 14th with all things pi (π), including a pi recitation contest, writing piku poems (like haikus, but math related), calculating pi from everyday objects, and of course, eating pie. Thanks to parents who have volunteered pies or time to help cut and serve. It's not too late to add a circular treat to our celebration - send it in with your sixth-grader on 3.14!



Your Sixth Grade Team

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