



Pelham Public Schools
ELA Writing Tri-State Review

April 18-20 2016

School: (please check one)

Elementary

High School

Middle School

District

Evidence Title: _____Immigration Research - Writing Your Congressman!_____

Name of person submitting evidence: _____David and Acocella and Joanna Kelly_____

Grade Level: 8 **School:** Pelham Middle School **Course Name:** Social Studies 8

Please check one Indicator and one Stage of Implementation.

Indicator	Stage of Implementation		
	Approach	Implementation	Results
1. Performance Based Assessment			
2. Student Metacognition in Learning Process			
3. Student Performance Data			
4. Curriculum & Instruction		√	√
5. Professional Learning, Supervision and Evaluation			
6. Equitable Support for Student Needs			
7. Shared Vision & Environment for Change			
8. Parent and Community Support			
OTHER: Please Specify			

Brief Explanation of Evidence:

During the eighth grade study of immigration, students practice their research skills by finding reliable, accurate information from a variety of sources, organizing the information, drawing conclusions, and synthesizing. They are required to research three historical immigrant groups and one modern group including why they left their homes countries, where they settled in the United States, why they settled there, and how they were treated.

When this research is completed, a real-world application of the knowledge is facilitated by having each student write a letter to their Congressman. Students are encouraged not only to share what they learned with him, but to share their own personal family stories, connections they made from historical immigrant groups and policies to modern ones, and ideas or sentiments the Congressman should keep in mind when examining the issue of immigration.

In completing this assignment, students practice the business letter format and a polite, respectful and formal tone. Students are presented with a loose outline to guide them in what should be included in the letter but not restrict them in presenting their own feelings or opinions. They are free to express themselves and what they have learned provided they include appropriate context and supporting information. These letters are then mailed to the Congressman.

Reviewed by: _____ OK for submission: _____