Banned Book Research Project

92-100- Must read a banned book that you haven't previously read before. Select a book from the list and get signed parental permission to read book. Student is responsible for obtaining a copy of the book from school or public library or by purchasing.

- Research and present the history of its challenges and bans, documenting all sources, including book in MLA form on final slide and a separate Works Cited page.
- Select three passages that exemplify the main objections in the challenges against the book.
- Select three passages that show the redeeming value/themes of the book.
- Is this book available in the public library? Have there ever been any controversies related to it there?
- Is this book available in the Vestal School District? Has it ever been taught? Have there ever been any controversies related to it here?
- Present your "expert" opinion on what age level /audience would be appropriate for the book and why. Should there be any restrictions on the book? Support your opinion.
- Present 20X20 Pecha-Kucha

Up to a 90: Not required to read a book, but will be randomly assigned a book from the list after those who wish to read one have chosen.

- Research and present the history of its challenges and bans, documenting all sources, in MLA form on final slide.
- Read a summary of the book and all information you can find on themes and characters.
- Based on all your research, present a reasoned opinion on whether the book should be available without restrictions. What age level/audience would be appropriate for the book and why?
- Is this book available in the Vestal School District? Has it ever been taught? Have there ever been any controversies related to it here?
- Is this book available in the public library? Have there ever been any controversies related to it there?
- Present 20X20 Pecha-Kucha

Sources and Documentation

Feel free to search the web for information. You need at least three sources, and the following may get you started, but generally, google searching for your title with the words "banned" and "challenged" will bring up more detailed results.

- http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/banned/frequentlychallenged/index.cfm
- http://banned-books.com/

I want a separate, word processed Works Cited page for all of your sources as though this were an essay. Keep track of your sources and properly cite them using MLA format. Use http://citationmachine.net/ for help with this step.
Presentation (100pts)
You will create a Pecha-Kucha powerpoint presentation with the following basic requirements:

Slide 1
Banned Books Research Project, Your Name, Class Period, Due Date: Under your introduction

Slide 2
Title, Author, Publication year, Image of the book cover(s): Still under your introductory remarks

Slides 3 -19: All of the required elements of the research project

Slide 20
Works Cited (using MLA format) under concluding remarks

You may email your presentation to me as an attachment (dlharris@vestal.k12.ny.us) or bring it to class on a flashdrive on the due date in order to present your research to the class.

Grading (100 pts)
Your project will be graded on the following criteria:

✓ Followed directions/format? (Follow criteria for mark band chosen and Pecha-Kucha was in synch, 20X20)
✓ Colorful & creative display? (Pecha-Kucha is engaging with images supporting message, not the reverse.)
✓ Content/ information? (History of bans presented accurately, clearly and thoroughly.)
✓ Critical thinking? (Able to form a reasonable opinion based on research and present it persuasively.)
✓ Correctly formatted citations? (Works Cited page in correct MLA form)

TIME LINE

M 12/10: Deadline to bring parental permission form in for reading a specific banned book. As soon as you have received permission and return slip to me, and I confirm that no one else has chosen the book, you should obtain the book and set up a reading schedule for yourself.

N.B. There is over a month to read this book before the presentation, four weeks if you take out our holiday break. We read Fahrenheit 451 in 12 days (It just seems longer because it was spread out!). Choose a book that is doable for you in this time and will not cause you undue stress. The only reading I will assign you during this time is the AoWs. Also, make this your SSR book for the next month.

T 12/12: Remaining titles will be randomly distributed among students

M-F 12/17-21: Research time in English Resource
W 1/2-T 1/8: Research and Pecha-Kucha preparation
W -F1/9-1/11: Pecha-Kucha presentations