*Civics/Current U.S. Issues*

 **Performance Assessment Parent Letter**

 ***Karen H. Reeves***

**Dear Parent,**

Your student is required to complete the performance assessment described below. A research presentation, if done correctly, can serve a variety of purposes, including the development of specific skills that enhance student achievement across the curriculum (reading, research, writing, public speaking). Your student’s participation in each stage of this project is essential, as are following specific guidelines and meeting deadlines. While most of this project will be completed in class, please encourage your student to be present, **to follow the directions distributed in class**, and to meet the appropriate deadlines.

**Task:**

The following assignment is designed to reinforce the classroom units that address current issues faced by citizens of the state of Georgia as well as the nation at large. It will emphasize research, composition, technology, and presentation skills. Students will be required to research a current Georgia issue, complete a graphic organizer, and explain the material in a classroom discussion. Most of the work will be completed in the classroom, and discussion will begin Monday 9/27.

**Assessment:**

 **Individual Research Organizer/Presentation:** Project Grade

 **Research Notes:** Daily Grade

 **Research Works Cited:** Daily Grade

 **Special Note to Parents:**

The topics to be addressed are listed below. Many are of a controversial nature and may engender strong feelings regarding one side or the other. This exercise is designed to encourage students to gather information, to be discerning in their sources of information, and to carefully evaluate that information. This is not a platform for individual beliefs nor will any attempt to impose one opinion (whether that of a student or this instructor) be tolerated. Students will be given a forum at the end to express an evidence-based opinion regarding each issue.

* Should assault rifles be banned?
* Should marijuana be legalized?
* Should gas-powered vehicles be banned?
* Should the federal government pay for college tuition?
* Should we have “single-payer” health care?
* Should we institute the “flat tax?”

**Thank you in advance for your support of this important exercise.**

**Karen H. Reeves**

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**I have read the above information and understand that my child is responsible for following all guidelines and meeting all deadlines.**

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**Parent Signature Student Signature Date**