

Education Unit Project: **Envisioning an Ideal High School/School System: Due October 12th**

Working alone or with a partner or two, I would like you to design your ideal school. I want this school to be a “real life” ideal, so I would like you to assume that this school *could* exist within our current society. Assume that the student population of the school is diverse in terms of race, class, sexual orientation, and gender, unless you have specific articulated reasons otherwise. The project will consist of two elements: a paper/written portion and a visual representation of your ideas. You may include the written portion on the poster or in a separate essay.

The Paper:

Write a 2-3 page paper, typed and double-spaced, describing your school and how it works. This may be integrated into the poster/creation. **Specifically, make sure that your paper and poster address these topics/ questions:**

Physical Structure/ Design of the School:

1. What is the physical structure and design of the school? Why have you chosen this structure? *What function does it serve?*

Power in the School:

- 1) What are the different types/ roles of people within this school? Teachers, Administrators, Students, etc.
- 2) What kind of power will each type/ role/ person have?
- 3) How will they exercise this power? How will the major decisions be made? *Why?*

Curriculum, Pedagogy, and Assessment in the School:

- 1) What will the curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment look like in your school? *Why?*

The School's Relationship with Larger Society:

- 1) What kind of relationship will your school have with the larger society? What are the school's goals?
- 2) Will it seek to help students assimilate/ fit into this society or to rebel against and transform the society? *Why?*

EXTRA CREDIT-Comparing Your School to American/International Schools-

- 1) How does your school support or challenge the reality of American education?
- 2) Research an international educational model and compare it to the model you have created. How are they similar, different, etc?

For all of these questions, be sure to give an in-depth explanation of your reasoning behind your answers. Your writing must illustrate that you have read and understood the material we have covered over the past two weeks. **You must quote or reference at least three (3) different articles/educational philosophers. Your references should be bold and underlined in your text, and the quotes and references must be integrated into your discussion.**

The Visual Representation:

On a poster board, you and your partner should create a visual representation of your ideal. My idea is that you will collect, draw, or construct a series of images, abstract or realistic, and that you will paste them on your poster. Or you will have a detailed 3D design or some type of construction of your institution. Your poster/design should have explanations about the required elements above. Your poster/design will either have all of your writing attached, or you will hand in a separate paper.