**2014: *RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES IN HISTORY***

**Guidelines for Choosing a Topic:**

**1. Think ASPIRE –In which of the six areas of history are you the most interested? – \*Arts,**

 **\*Society,**

 **\* Politics,**

 **\*Ideas & inventions,**

 **\* Religion,**

 **\*Economics.**

**2. Choose an area/subject that you feel strongly about.**

 **Do you love animals…*consider investigating the formation of animal rights organizations or “No animals were Harmed” program for the film industry.***

**Do you play sports*…consider exploring the Title IX : equal access for women in sports or Free Agency.***

**Are you fascinated with the arts… *consider exploring the Artists Rights Society (ARS), intellectual property rights, or television royalties.***

**Are you a military buff…consider *researching the rights of prisoners of war, Nuclear Test Ban treaties,***

***Is protecting the environment particularly important to you…consider investigating the Clean Air Act, Organic labeling, Greenpeace or World Heritage Sites.***

**3. Choose something that is personal to you, your family, or a relative or ancestor-**

**Did a grandparent participate in civil rights demonstrations…consider researching the Civil Rights Law of 1964, the rights of Native Americans, or WWII internments of Japanese-, Italian- and German-American citizens.**

**Is a relative a veteran…consider the GI Bill.**

**Did a family member invent or create something…consider patent or copyright laws.**

**4. Do some preliminary research.**

 **Make a list of Key words you can use to research on the web…For example: If you are interested in Women’s Rights…*consider: “Women’s rights” “ feminism”, “suffragettes”, “NOW”, “ERA”***

**5. Consider doing a local history topic. (Monterey County, California)**

**Why? You live here so it’s personal and there are a lot of special awards for local topics.**

 **Some topics on which there is much debate:**

 ***-National Marine Sanctuary Act and Monterey Bay***

***-California State Constitution- Monterey, 1849***

***-National and State Parks Service- Los Padres National Forest, Point Lobos***

***-Californian Coastal Act – Public access, Property owners’ rights***

***-Historic Preservation in Carmel***

***-*** **The** **Esselen Tribe and Native American Tribal rights**

***-Cesar Chavez and Farm workers’ Rights***

***Reference -*** [***http://www.angelfire.com/dragon/volker/mty\_history.html***](http://www.angelfire.com/dragon/volker/mty_history.html)

**6. If you think of something before school starts…email me: fkeaton@asds.org**

**Let’s talk about it and decide if it is a doable topic. Remember, you are going to be living with it for *Seven Months*, at least!!!!**

**7. Remember…your parents and grandparents are primary sources**

 **so use them.**