**BAY ISSUE** “NEWS REPORT” PROJECT

TREASURE THE CHESAPEAKE – C.E.U.

Many things go on in our watershed that have a direct or indirect impact on the health of the Bay. You have begun to learn about various issues that affect our treasured Chesapeake Bay in negative ways.

The following is a description of the project you will be responsible for completing – both the in-school portion and the at-home portion.

**What is the very FINAL product?**

In the end, you should end up with a **filmed news report explaining an issue causing problems for the Chesapeake Bay**. The news report will include the required parts, which are listed below, and will be ***based upon your research***. One of the required parts of the news report is a **model that will be shown during the news report**, displaying either the problem or a proposed solution.

**The breakdown:**

1. Choose the **issue** – something having a **negative impact on the health of the Bay.** Choose the issue you are most interested in researching. See the list of issues in this packet. **Let Mrs. Young know which issue you will research.**

2. **In class and at home**, work to pinpoint the:

* **Problem**
* **Cause**
* **Additional impacts**
* **Solutions or improvements**

This **research will be recorded** on the “Bay Notes” document we have already created on the GAFE in the Computer Lab.

3. **In class and at home, compose a newscast, typed, that includes the researched information listed in #2.** What does not get completed in class MUST be finished at home. We will work on the **GAFE**, so you will be able to access your written work at home as well as at school – no thumb drive needed! **Use a size-16 font** so you can easily see the script as it is held up above your computer for filming. Your script will be turned in and graded.

4. **At home, construct a** **model** **or display** to be used during the filming of the newscast. You will refer to the model as you report out about your issue. **Keep the newscast in mind while constructing your model**. Since you will film in front of the computer, your model should be something that can be held in front of the computer, which means its parts must stay in tact when held up. You will be explaining the model based upon the research you have done, so **it should display the problem and/or a possible solution**. Your model will be graded based upon its accuracy and effectiveness in displaying the issue on which you are reporting.

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\*\*\*Please note that words will show backwards on Photo Booth videos, ***so please do not include text in your model***. Words are not needed, since you will explain the model as you report on the problem.

4. **In class, you will use Photo Booth to record your newscast**. You will be graded on your newscast, based upon the effort you have made to take the task seriously in order to be effective and informative.

5. Your newscasts will be shown on **Excellence Night** in May, and if you choose to present the CEU that night, your model will be on display as well. All models will be shown that evening through the newscasts.

**How do you start???**

**READ, read, read!** You have an excellent website to refer to for your start. (http://www.chesapeakebay.net/discover/bay101) You have *Bay Journal* issues. And, of course, you have the Internet! Past *Bay Journal* issues can be found online, as well as countless articles related to the health of the Chesapeake Bay. Be sure to stick to your topic – which may include a few ideas – but **make the newscast focus on one thing in particular that is going on in our precious watershed**.

***Please do NOT wait until the last minute to get started.*** You will not have a quality project if you put it off, and you will have a hard time making progress during class.

***The model and news report script are both due in class by Tuesday, April 8th, to be used during our final week for filming.***

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**Parents – Please sign and return this portion of the project description with your child so I know you have seen the project assignment and its due date. Email** **lisa\_young@hcpss.org** **with any questions. Thank you for your support!**

**Mrs. Young**

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**Student Name Parent Signature**

**POSSIBLE CHESAPEAKE BAY ISSUE TOPICS:**

(If you are thinking of something specific that is not listed, discuss it with Mrs. Young. You will most likely get to research your chosen topic.)

**Climate Change**

* Specific to the impact it has on the Bay

**Development**

* Urban Sprawl
* Environmentally

**Invasive Species**

* Plants
* Animals

**Oysters**

* Reduced populations

**Population Growth Within the Watershed**

**Sediment**

* From development
* From agriculture

**Stormwater Runoff**

**Wastewater**

**Weather**

**Agriculture**

* Chicken farms
	+ Waste
* Crop farming
	+ Fertilizer
	+ Irrigation
	+ Pesticides
	+ Herbicides
* Livestock farms
	+ Waste

**Air Pollution**

* Excess nutrients

**Bay Grasses**

* Reduced amounts

**Blue Crabs**

* Reduced populations

**Chemical Contaminants**

* From households
* From industry
* From farming

EXAMPLE NEWSCAST:

ISSUE: Bay species are being negatively impacted by improper disposal of medications.

Did you ever wonder what happens to your unused medications when you throw them in the trash, or worse, flush them down the toilet? Well, one thing is sure - the Chesapeake Bay is taking the hit.

When medications are flushed down the toilet, making their way into our water system,