Timberlake High School
Senior Project
2019-2020

Student/Parent Handbook

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Senior Project Introduction Page

The Timberlake High School Senior Project is a graduation requirement for all graduating seniors.

1. The senior project is designed to allow students the opportunity to research a specific area of interest and develop a high quality research paper.   Students will participate in an oral presentation by means of an interview with a panel of judges, discussing their portfolio, community service, and college/career plans.

2. Students will work on and complete their research paper in their senior English class.

3. Off campus seniors must make an appointment to meet with the senior project coordinator by September 20, 2019.

4. Any senior who attends NIC full time, but plans on graduating from Timberlake High School, will be required to complete the senior project. The research paper submitted may be written and graded in the student's 1st semester NIC 101 or 102 class, but must still meet the requirements of a 5 – 8 page research essay. This essay must be printed out and submitted to Timberlake with a Blackboard print-out of the score received. The student will be responsible for completing the portfolio on his/her own time and submitting it through google docs to the senior project coordinator, as well as preparing for the interview presentation. Students must utilize their Lakeland School District student email regularly for updates and information from staff at Timberlake High School.

5. Any senior who attends Timberlake, but takes an online English class (i.e.: IDLA) will be required to complete the senior project. The research paper submitted may be written and graded in the student's 1st semester senior-level English class, but must still meet the requirements of a 5-8 page argumentative research essay. If the class does not assign this type of research paper, then the student will still be required to submit one according to the guidelines in the Senior Project Handbook. The student will be responsible for completing the portfolio on his/her own time and submitting it through google docs to the senior project coordinator, as well as preparing for the interview presentation. Students must utilize their Lakeland School District student email regularly for updates and information from staff at Timberlake High School.

6. Students who are not taking an English 4 or NIC 101/102 class during their 1st semester of the year they graduate will still be required to complete the senior project. Students must utilize their Lakeland School District student email regularly for updates and information from staff at Timberlake High School.

7**. Parents must sign the parent notification on page 4. Seniors must return this form into the senior project coordinator by September 13, 2019**

Overall Grading:
Students will receive a Pass/Fail grade for their senior project. In order to receive a passing grade, students must earn at least a 70% or proficient in *each* of the graded component areas which include the research paper, portfolio and interview presentation.

Lakeland School District
Senior Project
Step One – Parent Notification

To the Parent or Guardian:

As a parent of a student in the Lakeland School District, I am aware that my son/daughter must satisfactorily complete all of the components of the senior project in order to complete the graduation requirements. I have read the requirements in the senior project handbook.

I/We fully understand that this senior project selection decision is made independently of the staff and administration of the high schools but is subject to school approval. This senior project selection and approval is student and parent centered. I/We therefore assume all responsibility for any risks and costs that might be inherent in the project chosen.

Finally, both my son/daughter and I understand that faking or plagiarizing any part of the paper or the project will lead to failure of the senior project. Idaho Administrative Code requires successful completion of the Senior Project to meet High School Graduation Requirements.

Parent/Guardian Name **Printed** /Signature_____

                                              (Print Name)

Parent Phone #_____

Parent Email _____

Student's Name **Printed**/ Signature_____

                                        (Print Name)

Date_____

Timberlake High School

Part 1: Community Service

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Seniors will be required to complete fifteen hours of community service by the end of 1st semester which ends on January 23, 2020.

Community service can be a very rewarding and satisfying experience. It can help to build character, develops skills, and teaches you to work with others. Community service is an important part of personal growth. It shows that you care about others, and the community around you.

There are plenty of community service opportunities for a high school student. Below you will find a list of a few ideas to help you get started on your community service.

Potential Places to Volunteer

Public library
Nursing Home
Senior Community Center
Hospital
Animal Shelter
Local Park
Church

Other Ideas

Organize a canned food drive
Work with veterans
Help out an elderly or disabled person in the community with chores such as mowing a lawn, chopping and stacking firewood, house cleaning etc.
Tutoring
Job Shadowing

Hours need to be recorded on the form that seniors are provided with. You will need to record your hours along with a brief description of work performed. Name and phone number of a contact person must be filled out on form.

Community Service/Job Shadowing Completion Form

To be used to receive credit from community service, and or job shadowing. Please fill out one form per each organization that received your community service, or the organization that you job shadowed with.

Date: _____

Student Name: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Name of Supervisor: _____

Phone Number of Organization: _____

E-mail of Organization Contact: _____

Brief Description of Community Service / Job Shadowing Performed:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Number of Hours Performed: _____

Signature of Supervisor: _____

For TLHS Use Only:

Coordinator Approved: _____   Date: _____

Timberlake High School

Part 2: The Research Paper

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Senior Project – **Research Paper**

Argumentative Problem- Solution:
A problem-solution essay is a type of argument. "This sort of essay involves argumentation in that the writer seeks to convince the reader to take a particular course of action. In explaining the problem, it may also need to persuade the reader concerning specific causes" (Dave Kemper et al., Fusion: Integrated Reading and Writing, 2016).
In order to create a great problem-solution essay you need to come up with an argument for your solution to a chosen problem, or to emphasize a strong case that explains why that problem has to be solved urgently (https://pro-papers.com/problem-solution-essay-writing).

Introduction
1. Identify the topic – provide general information about the main idea, explaining the situation so the reader can make sense of the topic and the claims you make and support.

2. State why the main idea is important – tell the reader why s/he should care and keep reading. Your goal is to create a compelling, clear, and convincing essay people will want to read and act upon.

3. State your thesis– compose a sentence or two stating the position you will support (your attitude) with (sound reasoning: induction, deduction), (balanced emotional appeal), and (credible resources) – this touches upon the main ideas you will use in your paper.

Body Paragraphs: Moving from General to Specific Information
Your paper should be organized in a manner that moves from general to specific information. Every time you begin a new subject, think of an inverted pyramid - the broadest range of information sits at the top, and as the paragraph or paper progresses, the author becomes more and more focused on the argument ending with specific, detailed evidence supporting a claim. Lastly, the author explains how and why the information she has just provided connects to and supports her thesis (a brief wrap up).

Rebuttal Sections: In order to present a fair and convincing message, you may need to anticipate, research, and outline some of the common positions (arguments) that dispute your thesis. If the situation (purpose) calls for you to do this, you will present and then refute these other positions in the rebuttal section of your essay.

Organizing your rebuttal section - When you rebut or refute an opposing position, use the following three-part organization:
1. **The opponent's argument** – At the beginning of your paragraph, you need to state, accurately and fairly, the main points of the argument you will refute.

2. **Your position** – Next, make clear the nature of your disagreement with the argument or position you are refuting. Your position might assert, for example, that a writer has not proved his assertion because he has provided evidence that is outdated, or that the argument is filled with fallacies.

3. **Your refutation** – The specifics of your counterargument will depend upon the nature of your disagreement. If you challenge the writer's evidence, then you must present the more recent evidence. If you challenge assumptions, then you must explain why they do not hold up. If your position is that the piece is filled with fallacies, then you must present and explain each fallacy.

4. **Conclusion:** Conclusions wrap up what you have been discussing in your paper. After moving from general to specific information in the introduction and body paragraphs, your conclusion should begin pulling back into more general information that restates the main points of your argument. Conclusions may also call for action or overview future possible research.

Lakeland School District - Senior Project

General Rules for the Research Paper

1. **Paper** – White, 8.5"X 11" paper, one-sided

2. **Length** – English IV /NIC English: 5-7 pages; College Prep: 6-8 pages

3. **Type** – Times New Roman, size 12 font, black ink

4. **Margins** – One inch on left, right, top, and bottom.

5. **Stapling** – Upper left corner of paper.

6. **Double Spacing** – Body should be double spaced unless you are typing one of the following:

    a. **Lists** – Each list should be indented and single-spaced. If there is more than one list, double-space between the lists.

    b. **Long quotations** – Quotes that are forty words or longer should be single-spaced and indented one inch from the right and left margin.

7. **MLA formatting** required – heading, page #'s, in-text citations, works cited page

8. **Point-of-View** –Except in rare cases, research papers are written in third person.

Timberlake High School
Part 3: The Portfolio

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Senior Project – **The Portfolio**

The senior project portfolio is an organized collection of documents illustrating your High School achievements.

The portfolio will consist of the following:

1. Title Page
2. Table of Contents
3. Core Value Statement
4. Resume
5. (3) Letters of Recommendation
6. Copy of Final Draft of Research Paper
7. Transcript
8. Community Service Hours
9. (6) Samples of School/Academic support materials: School work, awards won, any competition participated in, clubs, volunteer work etc.

Seniors will work on their portfolio during their own time. Access Time and after school will be available for students.

Seniors will be expected to turn in each item electronically through google docs **by the due dates** that are assigned to each item of the portfolio.

Off campus seniors or any senior who does not have an English class through Timberlake must turn their portfolio items in electronically through google docs **by the due dates** that are assigned to each item of the portfolio.

A score of 70% or better is required in order to pass this component of the senior project.

PORTFOLIO DUE DATES

ITEM	DUE DATE
Title Page	**Sept 20, 2019**
Community Service Check #1	**Sept 20, 2019**
Table of Contents	**Sept 27, 2019**
Core Value Statement	**Oct 11, 2019**
Community Service Check #2	**Oct 18, 2019**
Resume	**Oct 18, 2019**
(3) Letters of Recommendation	**Dec 13, 2019**
Copy of Final Draft of Research Paper	**Dec 13, 2019**
Community Service and School/Academic Support Materials	**Jan 23, 2020**
Completed portfolio	**Jan 23, 2020**

All items should be placed into plastic sleeves and then organized according to the table of contents into a new <u>black or white binder.</u>

<u>Completed</u> portfolio should be turned into your Senior English teacher. Off campus and seniors who do not have a Senior English class at Timberlake should turn their portfolio into the senior project coordinator.

Senior Project

Student's Name

2019-2020

Timberlake High School

(favorite appropriate quote here)

<u>Table of Contents</u>

Core Value Statement

Resume

Letters of Recommendation

Final Draft of Research Paper

Transcript

Community Service Form(s)

School/Academic Support Materials

CORE VALUE STATEMENT

Core values are traits or qualities that you consider not just worthwhile; they represent an individual's fundamental driving force. Core values are deeply held convictions and priorities that influence your attitudes and behaviors.

You will need to write a 300-800 word essay focusing on three personal core values that are important to you.

Seniors will complete the essay in their Senior English class.
Off campus seniors and seniors who take English online are responsible for writing their essay on their own time.

Examples of core values

Compassion
Dependability
Honesty
Kindness
Loyalty
Self-respect
Faith
Cheerfulness
Charity
Encouragement
Confidence
Empathy
Trust
Leadership

Sample Resume Format:
Student Name
123 Address St.
Spirit Lake, ID 83869
208-623-0001
Email@Address.com

Education

Timberlake High School – Spirit Lake, ID 83869   Graduation Date: June 5, 2020
- Kootenai Technical Education Campus
  - Diesel Mechanics Program – 2018
- North Idaho College Dual Credit
  - Sociology – Fall 2018
  - English 175 – Spring 2019
- Spanish 1 and 2
- Honors English

> List any classes that are more than the regular requirements or anything that teaches employable skills.

Work Experience

Silverwood Theme Park   May 2017– October 2017
- Front gate Cashier
  - Cash handling
  - Greet guests

> List specific activities that you performed on a job. Work experience does NOT need to be a paid job.

North Idaho Special Olympics   September 2018
- Regional Track meet
  - Recorded participant's times

Activities

Robotics Club - 2016-2018
- Club Secretary

Varsity Golf – 2016-2019
- Outstanding Golfer Award -2018

District Drama Competition
- State Qualifier – 2017

Business Professionals of America
- Small Business Management Team – State 4th Place

North Idaho 4-H Club
- North Idaho County Fair – Steer – 2016
- Historian - 2017

> List activities from school and out of school. Include the date you were involved, awards and specific activities.

Skills

- Food Handling Permit – obtained January 2018
- CPR and First Aid Certified – obtained June 2019
- Cash Handling Skills
- Microsoft Office 2010 – Word, Excel and PowerPoint

> Skills must be measurable; "good people skills" or "good with computers" are not measurable. List only skills you can prove.

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LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

A recommendation letter is written by someone who knows you well and can recommend your work or academic performance. The goal of a letter of recommendation letter is to vouch for the skills, achievements, and aptitude of the person being recommended. A letter of recommendation describes a person's qualifications and skills as they relate to employment or education.

Seniors are required to have three letters of recommendation for their senior portfolio. The letters of recommendation should be written for college entrance if the senior plans on going to college or for employment if the senior plans on going into the work force right out of high school. If a senior had a letter of recommendation written for a certain scholarship, we will accept that as well as long as it was written within the last year. All letters of recommendation need to be typed. Hand written letters will not be accepted.

We will accept two letters written by teachers or staff members at Timberlake High School. The other letter will need to be written by sources outside of Timberlake High School. **Letters of Recommendation written by family members will not be accepted.**

Examples of persons who can write a letter of recommendation:

Teachers
Coaches
Counselors
Club leaders
Employers

Timberlake High School
Part 4: The Presentation

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1. Senior Presentations will be on Thursday, March 12 2020. There will be an early release of school at 12:30pm, with presentations beginning at 1:00 pm, and ending at 3:00 pm.

2. The senior presentation is an interview type presentation going over the senior's portfolio, community service, and college/career plans.

3. Seniors are expected to dress professionally.

4. Students will interview with a panel of judges made up of staff at Timberlake Jr. High, and Timberlake High school, and community members.

5. Students are allowed to invite family members and friends to view their senior interview presentations.

6. Evaluation: Judges will fill out an evaluation form of your presentation.

7. A score of proficient or better is required in order to pass this component of the senior project.