

Instructional Resource Proposal Form

Use this form to propose the purchase of new textbooks, software, or other major instructional resources for a new course, grade, or multiple grades.

Date: 6/21/19

Person(s) submitting: Jacqueline Rivard

Content Area: 7th Grade Language Arts **Grade(s):** 7 **Course:** 7th grade ELA

Recommended Purchase:

Title or Name of Resource: *Unbroken (The Young Adult Adaptation): An Olympian's Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive* By Laura Hillenbrand

Type of Resource: Novel ISBN# 978-0-375-99062-5

Copyright: 2010 Vendor: New York Random House

Address: 1745 Broadway, New York, NY 10019

Background: (Why this purchase is being proposed?)

The first unit of study in 7th grade focuses on fictional characters, modern individuals, and historical figures who have overcome adversity. This novel would tie into the theme of overcoming adversity and allow for further study of resilience and its role in facing and overcoming personal challenges.

Process used to select this curriculum resource:

Our first unit needs a strong mentor text. This novel focuses on the true story of Louis Zamperini, an Olympic athlete who faced extreme personal struggles throughout his childhood and adolescence, and found a purpose and drive in running. Later in his life, Louis fought in World War II against the Japanese, survived a plane crash and over a month at sea in a failing lifeboat, only to be abused and nearly killed several times over as a prisoner of war in a Japanese camp. While previewing this novel, I recognized several situations with which 7th grade students would be able to connect, and found numerous opportunities for students analyze the resilience needed for Louis to overcome every obstacle he faced. The text is appropriately rigorous and gives opportunities to teach reading and vocabulary strategies, as well as comparisons to historical events. This novel would make a rich and meaningful addition to this unit.

Is this the only curriculum resource for this course? If not, what other resource(s) will be used?

This text will be supplemented with articles from Newsela, a Scholastic article about Jackie Robinson, and other non-fiction resources which will give students background knowledge that will enhance understanding of the historical time period. Newsela

articles and Scholastic articles will also provide further opportunity for examination of adversity and resilience in literature and real life.

How was this resource evaluated in terms of providing adequate instructional support for the curriculum?

Currently, our first unit mainly covers citing and explaining appropriate text evidence in order to support open-ended writing throughout the year. This novel would allow for an expansion into comparing historical events and their portrayal in novels, analyzing points of view, and conduction of rich conversations about conflict and its impact on plot. This novel would allow students to practice skills that will follow them throughout their seventh grade year and into their 8th grade year. This novel also creates opportunities for extensions into 7th grade World Regions.

Attach a standard budget sheet to detail the purchase costs.