

Deirdre Diggins

The Racialization of Route 66 - National Endowment for the Humanities

July 2023

Northern Arizona University

### Three-Tiered Plan

- I. Faculty Presentation - Present to faculty about NEH Institutes as a whole (no one at Holy Family has ever applied or attended before me) and present about the Route 66 class and its content. I have already connected with my assistant principal, and she will make sure that I have time to do these presentations. It will be later in the year, and I will create the content at that time.
- II. Whole School Presentations - Present at Convocation (where the entire school comes together each morning for announcements and programs) early in the school year, sharing about NEH and in particular the Route 66 Institute. Present at subsequent convocations connecting takeaways from the institute with each of the heritage/culture. Goal: Highlight differences that make us one community and work to understand people's lived experience.
- III. Community Corner - help students understand the lived experiences of people both in our Holy Family community and the community at large through monthly projects focusing on cultural heritage. This group will be led by students and guided by myself and one of our school counselors

Community Corner - student led club with the intention of offering points of connection for students in the community with the focus of seeing commonalities through differences

History - club began as part of newspaper class where a student wanted to address being LGBTQ in a Catholic school. When the article was not published students worked to create this club to encourage students to connect in a variety of ways throughout the year. Activities included interactive displays sharing kind

words, posting notes on all students' lockers, selling flowers for students to buy for one another, and more.

Last year the club worked with a faculty committee, the Belonging Committee, to enhance work to bolster community in a more formal way. See information in this link:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YLWSRqyz3wknMFUcvUR69XC\\_U3hYHZe58bVnLJMeXQ/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YLWSRqyz3wknMFUcvUR69XC_U3hYHZe58bVnLJMeXQ/edit?usp=sharing)

This document shares what we did in 2022/23 and while we will do things differently as we are moving to more student led community work in the year 2023/24.

Resources:

[Minnesota Humanities Center](#)

[Native Americans | Minnesota Historical Society](#)

[Immigrants in Minnesota - Minnesota Issues Resources Guides](#)

[Victoria](#)

[Immigrants and the Economy / Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development](#)

Plan for this year, influenced by work at NEH Institute the Racialization of Route 66:

From my work at the institute, I understand that empowering students to learn the stories behind the places that they live, ask questions, become inquisitive about lenses that each bring not only to the places where they live in Minnesota but also the lens that they bring to the community of Holy Family. Highlight differences that make us one community and work to understand people's lived experience.

1. Why MN so many immigrants? History

We will meet as a group several times a week during One Lunch.

Start with the concept of stories of community that make us who we are. What is the story behind each of the different groups of people living in Minnesota?

Lead students through discovering the history of the land - Victoria - what is the history of the land itself?

Ideas for activities: to be filled in by students

2. Hispanic Heritage Month - September 15 - October 15

Ideas for activities: to be filled in by students

3. Native Americans in Minnesota - November

<https://www.mnhs.org/fortsnelling/learn/native-americans>

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/19qBdk4nw\\_LiqiV6aB1dHY3\\_zMtPCwmwIDdp96vvCzFs/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/19qBdk4nw_LiqiV6aB1dHY3_zMtPCwmwIDdp96vvCzFs/edit)

Ideas for activities: to be filled in by students

4. Black History Month - February

Ideas for activities: to be filled in by students

5. Asian Pacific Awareness - May

Ideas for activities to be filled in by students