

Gunnison Watershed School District

Capstone Project

Capstone Projects provide students with an avenue for studying topics of interest typically not covered in the traditional classroom. Students who choose to participate will collaborate with a teacher/mentor to select a topic. Whether concentrating on independent research or community service, students will design a project to work on throughout the semester/school year. Students will solicit guidance from a support team of adult mentors and will determine the best way of presenting the project when finished. The Capstone Project is one method of demonstrating college and career proficiency in English and/or mathematics (SB Policy IKF) and is optional for students.

Student Responsibilities:

- Organize/propose plan for project
- Document/log time spent on the project
- Gather adult mentors
 - The Capstone Project Support Team- CPST must consist of a minimum of two adult mentors (one must be a GWSD staff member) to support the project
 - If the student wants to use the Capstone Project to demonstrate English and/or math proficiency, the mentor(s) must be licensed in those content areas
- Complete the project
- Present the project

Mentor Responsibilities:

- Encourage students to explore a passion
- Ensure appropriate standards are covered if the student is going to use the Capstone Project to demonstrate graduation proficiencies in English and/or mathematics
- Offer guidance and monitor progress
- Use the Capstone Project Rubric to score the student's work

Credit toward Graduation:

- The Capstone Project can be used to demonstrate College and Career Readiness
 - Student must score at least "Proficient" on the English and/or mathematics proficiency section of the Capstone Rubric
- 40 hours of documented time on task = .25 credit (elective)
- 80 hours of documented time on task = .50 credit (elective)
- Student must present the completed project to receive credit
 - 20-30 minutes in length
 - Must earn at least 27/45 Points to receive credit

Capstone Project Application

Student: _____

Date: _____

Mentor Teacher (s): _____

Project will be used to fulfill graduation proficiency in: _____ English _____ Mathematics _____ Both

Capstone Project Description: *Describe your independent research and/or community service project below and attach any documents that support the description.*

What is the purpose of your research? *How does the topic chosen connect to you and why is this topic of interest to you?*

What is the objective of your research? *What do you want to learn from the Capstone Project and what will you do with the information gained?*

How will you demonstrate what you have learned? *Will you use graphs, video, Powerpoint, etc. as presentation tools?*

Who will support your Capstone Project? *Explain why you solicited the support of the two required Mentors and include a plan for meeting the required three checkpoints.*

What do you need to be successful in terms of supplies and transportation? *Consider what you will need to complete your Capstone Project and how will you cover the costs, if any?*

List Colorado Academic Standards that will be addressed in the project. *If the Capstone Project is to be used to demonstrate graduation proficiency in English and/or mathematics, standards must be covered. (See Capstone Project Rubric)*

Goal Date for completion: _____

Check Point Dates: 1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____

Signatures of approval:

Counselor: _____

Mentor 1: _____

Mentor 2: _____

Capstone Project Rubric

Student:		Date:	Score: _____/41
TRAITS	ADVANCED - 3 PTS	PROFICIENT – 2 PTS	IN PROGRESS – 1 PT
Written Objective and Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> In depth description of the project, including goals and objectives <input type="checkbox"/> Fully explores and presents research findings regarding the personal passion or interest of the project <input type="checkbox"/> Describes and analyzes the topic including effective, detailed evidence that supports the learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Complete description of the project, including goals and objectives <input type="checkbox"/> Explores and presents research findings regarding the personal passion or interest of the project <input type="checkbox"/> Describes and analyzes the topic in a general manner, including basic evidence that supports the learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Limited description of the project <input type="checkbox"/> Minimally explores and presents research findings regarding the personal passion or interest of the project <input type="checkbox"/> Fails to describe or analyze the topic or makes general claims without supporting evidence
Written Conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 5-7 typed pages <input type="checkbox"/> Proper use of citations <input type="checkbox"/> Conventions (spelling, grammar, punctuation, etc.) are used correctly, enhancing the final product's readability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 2-4 typed pages <input type="checkbox"/> Proper use of citations <input type="checkbox"/> Conventions include some errors but they do not detract from the final product's readability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Fewer than 2 typed pages <input type="checkbox"/> Improper or misuse of citations <input type="checkbox"/> Conventional errors detract from the final product's readability
Visual Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Project topic is effectively represented through the visuals <input type="checkbox"/> High degree of craftsmanship demonstrated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Project topic is appropriately represented through the visuals <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate craftsmanship demonstrated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Project topic is not effectively represented through the visuals <input type="checkbox"/> Low quality of craftsmanship demonstrated
Application to Future Aspirations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Includes insightful reflection of learning and how it applies to the future of the student and the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Includes reflection of learning and how it applies to the future of the student and the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Reflection of learning and how it applies to the future of the student and the community is not included
Overall Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Dresses Professionally <input type="checkbox"/> Maintains eye contact, uses appropriate volume and articulation <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates high level of preparation <input type="checkbox"/> Answers questions thoroughly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Dresses Casually <input type="checkbox"/> Inconsistent eye contact, volume and articulation <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates adequate level of preparation <input type="checkbox"/> Answers to questions are not fully developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Dresses Inappropriately <input type="checkbox"/> Does not maintain eye contact, uses inappropriate volume and articulation <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates limited preparation <input type="checkbox"/> Fails to answer questions
Demonstration of English Proficiency for Graduation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses all of the 12th grade level expectations for Reading, Writing and Communicating outlined in the Colorado Academic Standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses at least half of the 12th grade level expectations for Reading, Writing and Communicating outlined in the Colorado Academic Standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Does not address any of the 12th grade level expectations for Reading, Writing and Communicating outlined in the Colorado Academic Standards
Demonstration of Mathematics Proficiency for Graduation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses all of the high school grade level expectations for mathematics outlined in the Colorado Academic Standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses at least half of the high school grade level expectations for mathematics outlined in the Colorado Academic Standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Does not address any of the high school grade level expectations for mathematics outlined in the Colorado Academic Standards