**I. RESEARCH FAIR**

**A. Research Report:**

* Bibliography cards (Number of sources required is grade level divided by two with a minimum of three. Odd grades may round down. Internet may be used for only one source of the required number.)
* Outline
* Note cards (10 per grade level)
* Rough draft
* Second draft
* Illustrations
* Final Draft (100 words per grade level with 25% overage allowed. Typing is preferred but not required. All typing is to be done at home. If written by hand, final draft must be in ink.)
* Title Page
* Bibliography
* Checklist
* Folder

**B. Oral Report:**

* Present the material on the presentation board and in the research report.
* Time Requirements:

Grade 4-6 2-3 min.

Grade 7-8 3-5 min.

Grade 9-10 6-8 min.

Grade 11-12 8-10 min. ?

**C. Presentation Board:** (Display not required for grades 10 – 12)

* Maps
* Time lines
* Pictures (Scenery, historical figures, etc.)
* Flag (if applicable)
* Other symbols/emblems
* Current events/people
* CREATIVITY!! Clothes, money, crafts/souvenirs, food, music, literature, and/or toys will add a terrific *spice* to your board.
* Experiment data, hypothesis, summary, etc.

**D. Assignments:**

Grade 4-6 History (country, person, and state on three year

rotation.)

Grade 7-8 Science

Grade 9 Missions

Grade 10 – 12 Doctrines of the Bible

Dramatic Monologue

Bible Term Paper

Anabaptist History

Local History

**E. Teacher Notes:**

* Teacher Preparation: Preparation should be made well in advance for the provision of materials: display boards, note cards, and report folders. Teachers or the administrator are also responsible to provide the students with a list of expectations and a working schedule with deadlines. Doing this will save a lot of hassle and headache. Provisions should be made for transporting students to the library, organizing a panel of judges, supplying grading sheets for the judges, and coordinating the Research Fair date.
* Plagiarism: Strongly emphasize the meaning and seriousness of plagiarism. Students should be careful to use their own thoughts and wording, and to give credit where credit is due. Grades 4 – 6 are not required to use footnotes beyond their bibliography cards. Grades 7 – 12, however, are required to footnote all non-original work and thoughts. (See *A Scientific Project*, pp. 12 – 13. - From A Beka Book)
* Teaching material: Teachers may find resources in the 6th grade *Language C* book under the section about research papers and in *A Scientific Project,* which also applies well to history.
* Help: How much help do I give a student? 4th graders especially are new to the whole idea of Research Fair. Feel free to coach them rather heavily and give each successive grade proportionately less help. The goal is to supply the students with the information they need to do a good job and to be successful without being frustrated. We want them to learn to learn.
* Library Books: Shiappa Library in Steubenville is a valuable resource for students during Research Fair. Books may be loaned for three weeks and usually may be renewed for an additional three. Plan your Fair schedule around this. Students will probably not be able to find enough research books at the library. Be prepared to get a few more online through interlibrary loan. Make sure that you as a teacher have a current library card in advance of your library trip. PLSJ cards cost $10 per year and are well worth it.
* The Fair: Preparation for the Research Fair is typically started soon after Christmas vacation and proceeds for about 8 weeks. This hard work and creativity is culminated with a fair held in the evening (usually Tuesdays or Thursdays work well.) and all of the patrons and any interested parties are invited. A snack, planned by the food committee usually follows the fair.

**F. Grading:**

* Research Paper is graded by the teacher and counts as one language test grade.
* Presentation Board and Oral Report are graded by a panel of three judges and count as a combined grade (50 pts. each) for one history/science/Bible test. Teachers are not asked to grade their own students as part of the panel of judges. The judging session is held during the last period of the school day before the evening fair. Try to use third-party non-teacher judges.
* Take into consideration the student's age and ability. Obviously, a tenth grader will be graded more rigorously than a 4rth grader. Grade with the philosophy of, “Is this their best or less than their best?” in mind.