Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Period\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Federal Budget Project**

**Purpose of Project:** Every year Congress needs to pass a Federal Budget to keep the government functioning. Each department has a set budget and needs to accomplish that department’s goal with the allotted money. You have identified (or need to identify) a problem with one of the department’s responsibilities. You will need to see how the budget is currently working to solve the issue and create your own proposal. Working in a group of 2-3 people you will need to answer the following questions to guide your research:

1. What is the purpose of the department?
2. What is currently being spent on this topic?
   1. What percent of the budget does this represent?
   2. Where does the money come from?
3. Is the spending necessary?

a. Who benefits from this spending?

1. How would you propose changing this budget?
   1. Who would benefit and who would suffer as a result of your change?
   2. How could your changes impact the economy?

**Project Presentation:** You will create a presentation of your findings to the class. The presentation will be due the first day back from Winter Break (A-day: 1/317; B-day: 1/4/17). Presentations will begin that day and continue to the following day. Your group will need to sign-up with your teacher. Presentations will need to be 8 minutes in duration.

**Rubric**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CATEGORY | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2-1 | 0 |
| Group Timeline | Group independently develops a reasonable, complete timeline describing when different parts of the work (e.g., planning, research, first draft, final draft) will be done. All students in group can independently describe the high points of the timeline. | Group independently develops a timeline describing when most parts of the work will be done. All students in group can independently describe the high points of the timeline. | Group independently develops a timeline describing when most parts of the work will be done. Most students can independently describe the high points of the timeline. | Group needs adult help to develop a timeline AND/OR several students in the group cannot independently describe the high points of the timeline. | Meets no requirements |
| Delegation of Responsibility | Each student in the group can clearly explain what information is needed by the group, what information s/he is responsible for locating, and when the information is needed. | Each student in the group can clearly explain what information s/he is responsible for locating. | Each student in the group can, with minimal prompting from peers, clearly explain what information s/he is responsible for locating. | One or more students in the group cannot clearly explain what information they are responsible for locating. | Meets no requirements |
| Quality of Sources | Researchers independently locate at least 2 reliable, interesting information sources for EACH of their ideas or questions. | Researchers independently locate at least 2 reliable information sources for EACH of their ideas or questions. | Researchers, with some adult help, locate at least 2 reliable information sources for EACH of their ideas or questions. | Researchers, with extensive adult help, locate at least 2 reliable information sources for EACH of their ideas or questions. | Meets no requirements |
| Area of Spending | Researches completely identify the department budget, what the budget is being spent on, and the percentage of that budget. | Researches somewhat identify the department budget, what the budget is being spent on, and the percentage of that budget. | Researchers identify 2 of the following: the department budget, what the budget is being spent on, and the percentage of that budget. | Researches identify 1 of the following: the department budget, what the budget is being spent on, and the percentage of that budget. | Meets no requirements |
| Purpose of Spending | Researchers completely identify how the budget is used, who benefits from the current budget, and who suffers from the current budget. | Researchers somewhat identify how the budget is used, who benefits from the current budget, and who suffers from the current budget. | Researches 2 of the following: how the budget is used, who benefits from the current budget, and who suffers from the current budget. | Researchers identify 1 one of the following: how the budget is used, who benefits from the current budget, and who suffers from the current budget. | Meets no requirements |
| Source of Spending | Researchers clearly identify where the money comes from to support the budget. | Researchers somewhat identify where the money comes from to support the budget. | Researchers barely identify where the money comes from to support the budget. | Researchers do not identify where the money comes from to support the budget. | Meets no requirements |
| Proposed Solution | Researchers clearly identify their proposed solution and include: how the budget is used, who benefits from the current budget, and who suffers from the current budget. | Researchers somewhat identify their proposed solution and include: how the budget is used, who benefits from the current budget, and who suffers from the current budget. | Researchers somewhat identify their proposed solution and include 2 of the following: how the budget is used, who benefits from the current budget, and who suffers from the current budget. | Researchers somewhat identify their proposed solution and include 1 of the following: how the budget is used, who benefits from the current budget, and who suffers from the current budget. |  |
| Presentation | Researchers present information in a professional format. All members of the group participate in the presentation. Presentation completed in 6-7 minutes. | Researchers present information in a semi-professional format. Most members of the group participate in the presentation. Presentation is over or under time frame by 1 minute. | Researchers present information in a semi-professional format. Some members of the group participate in the presentation. Presentation is over or under time frame by 2 minutes. | Researchers present information in a semi-professional format. One member of the group participates in the presentation. Presentation is over or under time frame by 3 minutes. | Meets no requirements |

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/40