

Hannah Bradt

Mr. Speice

ISM 3A

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### Back to Work

#### Weekly Report 11/21 - 12/4

Although the last few weeks of Independent Study and Mentorship were interrupted by the much needed Thanksgiving Break, there have still been many assignments that needed to be completed. One of my main personal focuses to accomplish over the break was to gather all supplies that I will need to create my display board for the Research Showcase and Final Presentation Night. In the previous week, my main focus was based on planning and conducting my final three interviews, in which I planned to meet with a variety of counselors who specialized in different fields. I spent the beginning of the week sending emails, while the second part of my week was spent attempting to respond and schedule these interviews, as many of the times that I was given did not match my schedule. Finally, however, I was able to complete my scheduling, and conducted an interview with Vanessa Sanford on November 18, and later conducted my fourth interview on November 21, and the fifth on November 31. Although none of these meetings were conducted with elementary music school teachers, they were still extremely beneficial to my understanding of what it takes to be a teacher and to interact with children everyday. The first of these three interviews that I conducted was with a children's play therapist who specializes in the work of Brené Brown, whose work I am studying based on shame, guilt, and worthiness in a classroom. The second of the three interviews was conducted

with a therapist specializing in identifying, diagnosing, and accommodating children who suffer from mental or learning disabilities. Finally, the third interview of the three was conducted with another children's play therapist, who gave me a great amount of insight based on the ways to assist children who may not excel in specific areas, while others surrounding them thrive in the same areas.

During the most recent week in ISM, we were given time to work on any assignment necessary, as we prepare for the nearing night of the Research Showcase. Personally, I spent the majority of my time focusing mainly on creating and perfecting my professional invitation for the showcase, as well as creating my guest list so that these invitations can be sent as soon as possible. As the date for the showcase continues to draw nearer, I plan to focus my energy on creating my presentation board as well as completing my original work, especially over winter break, so that I do not experience extreme levels of stress when January 13, the due date for these projects, arrives.