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Mr. Speice

ISM 3A

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Non-Stop

Weekly Report 1/16 - 1/22

“After the war I went back to New York” - Lin-Manuel Miranda as Alexander Hamilton.

In my case, as well as the cases of all students in the Independent Study and Mentorship program, after the Research Showcase I went back to ISM. When the day of the Research Showcase finally arrived, the stress levels of all Independent Study and Mentorship students were through the roof...and because we were showing our presentations in The Star, the roof was extremely high. Although I knew that everything that I had done was completed at a satisfactory level, I was still very nervous, as I was unsure whether or not people would be interested in hearing what I had to say about my topic of elementary music education. When I arrived at The Star, the only spots available in the Reedy section were in the very back, facing the wall. These spots were not what I had originally had in mind for my board, as I was very proud of it, as well as my presentation, and had hoped to be placed in the front of the section. This unfortunate placement worried me as well, as I reasoned that many people would lack the motivation to walk that far across the field in order to visit a student whom they had never met before, and had little intent to meet again. Despite my worries, I was pleasantly surprised to find that a decent amount of visitors came to my table. I was very thankful to receive an excessive amount of compliments

about my board, as well as my original work idea, as I put a lot of effort into both, so that they would be visually pleasing, organized, and understandable.

In the days after the Research Showcase, I took a short break to rest and regain my thoughts after the stressful events that took place. After this however, I focused greatly on completing my Original Work, which was due Monday the 23rd. I eventually completed it, and had a few people check over it, to ensure that there were no typos, and that words were used correctly and professionally. Ultimately, I am very proud of my work, and I am excited to see what it could potentially lead to. Any questions that I had been previously asking myself about the ISM program have been answered, and I have decided to continue down the path of elementary music education, with a focus on shame and worthiness in a classroom setting.

Through the following weeks, I plan to continue studying in my field as I begin to go on my mentor visits to Purefoy Elementary, as well as in any extended research that I may do. I will begin to draft my Original Work speech, as well as begin to consider different ideas for my Final Product that I will create for Final Presentation Night.

The ISM program continues to provide me with many incredible experiences that I would not necessarily be able to have in any other program, and am grateful for each opportunity that I am given. I look forward to learning more about my field in elementary music education as I begin to interact with students in an actual classroom environment.