

Zach Maynard

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I have done multiple projects while in the NewTech system, and I have presented to multiple audiences, but only a few projects have the ability to change lives. This year I am enrolled in a class called world studies, and my classmates and I are learning about world history, while implementing literature and English. In this class I have made a website to go onto a nationally recognized website during a museum project. The museum project, took a long time to complete, but in the end the students made a website about several ancient civilizations. The students also presented to our community about how to be less violent and how to accept each other during a non-violence project. While doing the non-violence project, not only did the students educate our community on how to be less violent, but also had sessions to teach us how to be less violent in our personal relationships. The students also presented to the community about the dangers of human trafficking during a human trafficking project. The human trafficking project lasted the longest because the students made videos to show the public about human trafficking. During a genealogy project I traced my family back to the 1700's while I was researching how my family originally came to America. The genealogy project ended with Genealogy Day that took place at the Midland Mall. Students were able to showcase their research about genealogy. Although I have done so many great projects throughout the year in world studies, the project that is my favorite is the human trafficking project. The human trafficking project helped me make a

difference in the world, learn about what is happening concerning modern-day slavery and presented me with an experience that I will never forget.

I have always enjoyed learning about that can help me make a difference. History does not interest me as much as modern-day events do, so studying events that are happening in the here-and-now intrigues me. During this project, that is what the students focused on for the majority of the time. By focusing on modern-day slavery, I was able to become inspired. Now I know that I must make a difference in the world around me. That intrigues me because I feel like I should know what is happening in the world today. In a lot of ways I feel like I am blind to bad events that are happening right in front of me. I had no idea that human trafficking was happening to such an extent in Michigan. To find out that nearly every human trafficking victim has reported passing through Michigan at least once really bothered me, because I have called Michigan my home my whole life. Now that I know that something so dangerous was or is occurring in the state where I live, I realize that there is so much more that I can be doing for my community. To find out that there has been calls from my hometown to the authorities to report human trafficking makes me want to do something to continue to help others in my community even after the project was over. This project gave me a sense of wanting to make a difference; however, I also enjoyed learning as much as I could about such a sensitive topic.

During the human trafficking project my classmates and I learned about modern-day slavery and human trafficking throughout the world. Learning about this subject was definitely an experience that I will remember my whole life. I thought that

there was no slavery in the world, and I was blind to the reality of how cruel the world can be. Slavery is alive today, and slavery is thriving. There are people out there who kidnap innocent people and transport them place to place and sell them to be used like property. Not only for labor, but also for sex, and victims can be anybody. All the while I was learning about human trafficking, I kept thinking about how I wanted to share my knowledge. I want to stop this terrible crime against anybody and everybody involved. The goal of this project was to gain awareness about human trafficking and modern-day slavery. When I went to present about what I learned about human trafficking, my audience was dumbfounded. Every person I presented too was struck with the harsh reality of what the world is really like. Afterwards I left with a sense of accomplishment. I felt like I was successful. My audience had all gained awareness about human trafficking, and now they could spread that awareness to others.

Although I enjoyed the human trafficking project immensely, I also really enjoyed the genealogy project. I never knew how my family got to America. I never knew where my family was from. Though I enjoyed the genealogy project a lot, I still believe that the human trafficking project is my favorite. There were so many aspects to the human trafficking project that were so intriguing. Projects like that one are among my favorite projects of all time because the students made such a difference in other people's lives, not only my own.

Overall, the world studies class is fascinating. All of the projects make me feel like I am making a difference in today's world, and that fact makes me love this class. I want to make a difference. I believe that everybody wants to make a difference; they just have

to act on that urge. That is what this class did for me. This class gave me the push that I needed to begin to change the world. I feel like this class did that for a lot of people, and I will be forever grateful for that. There are few events in life that people hear about that take them by surprise and there are even fewer events that make them want to make a difference in the world, and the human trafficking project falls in both categories.

Learning about this gave everybody involved a sense of disbelief. Sometimes the world surprises people, in both good ways and bad. What people do with that information and whether or not they have what it takes to make a difference in the world.