

Student Performance Objective #1

By the year 2022, the students of Mt. St. Dominic Academy will improve their critical reading and thinking skills necessary to apply, synthesize, and evaluate knowledge as demonstrated by:

- a. An increase of 5 points in the average *total reading score* each year on the Nelson Denny Reading test for students given the test in the fall of grades 9, 10 and 11.

Baseline year: Fall of 2014

Base line data: The average *total reading* score for the Class of 2018 on the Nelson Denny Reading Test Form G given in the fall of 2014 was 77.3

- b. An increase from tenth to eleventh grade of 5 percentage points in the number of students scoring in the fiftieth percentile or higher on the PSAT reading section.

Baseline year: Fall of 2013 (Class of 2016- 10th graders' scores on PSAT Critical Reading Test)

Baseline data: 74% of the class of 2016 scored in the fiftieth percentile or higher on the PSAT reading section administered in tenth grade. (PSAT will be administered to class of 2016 in the fall of 2014 to measure progress from the baseline data.) In subsequent years, the data will be measured from the PSAT test administered in 10th grade with the PSAT administered to the same class in the 11th grade.

- c. A one point increase on the mean score of the *Document Based Question* from World History (9th grade) to US History I (10th grade) and a one point increase from US History I (10th grade) to US History II (11th grade) in the average rubric score of *Document Based Question* assigned each year. (We have modeled these *Document Based Questions* on the type of essay questions given in the AP History exams and we have used the AP grading rubric to score the student essays. Our rationale for giving this type question is to prepare our students for essay writing that uses information from these documents to support a student's thesis.)

Baseline year: Fall of 2014

Baseline data: 3.7 (on a scale of 1-9) is the average rubric score recorded for the first *Document Based Question* (DBQ) assigned to the class of 2018 in the fall of 2014 in World History class.

- d. An increase of 25 points in the Research Ready post test .(The Research Ready Course is a combination of a computer bases program known as *Research Ready*,

published by *Imagine Easy Solutions, LLC* and teacher lectures on various aspects of the research process.)

Baseline year: Fall of 2014

Baseline data: A pre-test evaluating the validity of sources will be administered to each freshman as they begin research skills class and a post-test will be administered at the conclusion of the course to evaluate their ability to critically assess the credibility of websites and resources in the research process. The pre-test was administered to the ninth grade (Class of 2018) at the beginning of the Research Ready course. The average pre-test score was 48/100.