Contact Information	*David Gordon* *dgordon@lane.k12.or.us*
School	*Westridge Middle School*
District	*Oakridge School District*
Unit Title	*Discovering Past Presidents*
Grade level with which unit is aligned to state standards.	*5*
Grade level(s) at which unit may be taught.	*5*
Duration	*15 days*
Unit Overview	*Students will research, assimilate information, draft, edit and produce a final report on an American President.*
Subject(s)	*Social Sciences*
Strand(s)	*History, SOCIAL SCIENCE ANALYSIS*
Common Curriculum Goal(s)	Calculate time and infer information from timelines. **U.S. HISTORY** Understand and interpret events, issues, and developments within and across eras of U.S. history. **Writing** Gather, use, and document information from multiple sources (e.g. print, electronic, human, primary, secondary). Find, understand, and use specific information in a variety of texts across the subject areas to perform a task. Pre-write, draft, revise, edit, and publish across the subject areas. Write narrative, expository, and persuasive texts, using a variety of written forms—including journals, essays, short stories, poems, research reports, research papers, business and technical writing—to express ideas appropriate to audience and purpose across the subject areas **Speech** Communicate supported ideas across the subject areas using oral, visual, and multi-media forms in ways appropriate to topic, context, audience, and purpose

Academic Standards Addressed	**Read to Perform a Task** **Expository Writing: Research Reports/ Multi-media Presentations** **Write research reports about ideas, issues, or events by using the following guidelines:** • **Frame questions that direct the investigation.** • **Establish a main idea or topic.** • **Use a variety of information sources, including firsthand interviews, reference materials, and electronic resources to locate information to support the topic.** • **Cite references appropriately.**
Instructional Technology Common Curriculum Goals (CCG) Addressed	Common Curriculum Goals # 3: Use technology to increase productivity and promote creativity by constructing, preparing and presenting original works using a variety of media and formats Common Curriculum Goals # 4: Use telecommunications and distance learning tools to communicate, collaborate, and learn. Common Curriculum Goals #5: Utilize technology-based research tools to access, organize and process information. **Locate and Organize Information** Students locate and organize information from electronic resources **Learning** Students use technology to acquire knowledge Keyboarding **Students use the keyboard to enhance productivity** **Evaluating Information** Students evaluate the accuracy, appropriateness and bias of electronic information
Career Related Learning Standards Addressed:	Communication: Demonstrate effective communication skills to give and receive information in school, community, and workplace.
How will student use the technology as a tool to enhance their learning?	*Students will use technology to: (a) generate research questions, (b)facilitate research, (c)assist in consolidation of information, and (d) enhance the quality of the final report.*
Objective	*Students will develop a research report to be presented to the class. They will use technology to assist in research and development of their final presentation.*
Prerequisites	*This will be the students' third research report this year so I expect them to have a basic understanding of keeping Bibliographic information while researching. I also expect them to have a basic understanding of using the internet to search biographies. The students will also be expected to know basic keyboarding in order to type a final report. Students will also be expected to save work on the school server so it can be accessed from any computer on the LAN.*

Non-Technology Materials	*Encyclopedia sets, Biographies, and other library materials referencing Presidents.*
Does this unit involve the use of technology	*Yes*
Required Hardware	*Any computer in the school, classroom set of laptops, and use of a local printer. I will need a projector to show whole class demonstrations.*
Required Software	*Internet Explorer, Microsoft Word, and for some students-Power Point. For one student I am going to try Dragon Speak.*
Links to relevant web sites and Other Technology	*www.presidentsusa.net/bio.html,* *www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/index2.html* *www.infoplease.com/ipa/a0760585.html* *www.americanpresidents.org* *www.whitehouse.gov/kids/presidents/* *www.ipl.org/div/potus/*
Preparation	*I will have a letter to the students and parents explaining the assignment and the expected Timeline of due dates. I will need to have reserved the mobile lab for this project for at least some of the research days and development of report.*

Instruction	*My method of presenting projects like this one is to show examples of what the final project should look like. I also teach the process they will be going through including pre-teaching skills of equipment/software use.* *The students must see that the final product is to inform others about their President. Without effective research they will not have the information they need to have an informative presentation. Therefore, we will start with how to record research and to document where the information came from. My students will have already done Bibliographies on one research project about Life Changing Scientists.* *We will go into more detail and reinforce the methods of documenting information from encyclopedias, and the Internet. I will also be teaching at the beginning, that this report is not so much about the President's life, but about their presidency, and the changes they influenced as President.* *The underlying concept behind these reports will be "Our choices, How do the choices we make influence or change the society in which we live?" I will want each student to consider that concept as they research their president. "What choices did the president make and how did that impact America at that time?"*
Modifications for Special Needs Students:	*I will be using Dragon Speak, which changes speech to text, for one student*
Modifications for Gifted Students:	*I will be using Power Point for my Gifted Students in order to provide an opportunity for creative presentation.*
Motivation	*Being able to use the computers for both research and development of final product is very motivating.*
Assessment	*I will know the students have reached the objective as I have periodic checks of research, and I will also see the final product.*