Task 18 – Persuasive Speech Panel Discussion

Description of task: Students will have already given several speeches at this point. They will use this speech as a culmination of the Speech unit. They will choose a social issue that has many different positions (such as capital punishment, zero tolerance) or some other position that could be argued. They will be given several to choose from, but others could be approved if they are appropriate. Students will sign up in groups of four to research these issues. They don't have to (and shouldn't) all have the same position on these issues. They will complete research in order to be able to participate in a panel discussion on the topic moderated by the teacher. They must become "experts" in their fields, sharing their expertise in front of the class and possibly guests depending on the nature of the topic chosen. The students may use notes if needed.

Standards addressed: #2, 3, 8, 10, 11

Criteria:
- Student needs to present information using good delivery
- Student should support what is said with examples, facts, and statistics, integrating research into the speech
- Student should comment on other students' comments and make transitions to their comments
- Each student should prepare a visual aid in the form of a handout
- The panel should be relatively balanced in the amount of time each student spends talking
- The panel should take between 20-25 minutes to discuss the issue
- Each student should give an introductory statement and concluding statement providing their position on the topic, and maintain focus throughout the speech

The student will be graded according to the speech master rubric with the entire group receiving the same score for categories of:

Balance (evaluating the amount of time spent for each student) (3x)
Pace (the ability for the group to finish within the amount of time)

Additionally students will individually be evaluated on the following categories:

Eye contact
Posture
Control of Language (2x)
Support (4x)
Focus (4x)
Visuals (3x)