**Education Around the World**

So far we’ve discussed the purpose of education (specifically compulsory education) generally and more specifically in terms of creativity and LASA.  Let’s broaden our focus and see how other nations currently approach their educational systems.  I specifically want us to discuss the education systems that seem to be doing a better job than the US in terms of student achievement.

**Assignment:**

1. With your group skim the two articles below.  Between them you will see rankings of school systems around the world and how the rankings are created.

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/11/27/best-education-in-the-wor_n_2199795.html> top ranked school systems in the world (US # 17)

<http://thelearningcurve.pearson.com/>

Person’s research/ ranking system

2.  Choose a country from the list below and together gather information about three areas of interest:

**a. curriculum**

**b. education logistics (student/teacher ratio, length of school day/year, etc.)**

**c. standards/assessment**

Countries to choose from:

1. Finland

2. South Korea

3. Hong Kong

4. Japan

5. Singapore

6. United Kingdom

7. Netherlands

8. New Zealand

9. Switzerland

10. Canada

11. Ireland

12. Denmark

13. Australia

14. Poland

15. Germany

16. Belgium

3. As you find information for your country in each category have someone write that information on the butcher paper I’ll put up around the room. Make sure you identify your country next to any information you write down. For each category you should aim to have at least 3 pieces of information.  Focus what you choose to write down - only write what you think is ADMIRABLE about the education system.

4. At the beginning of class Monday each group will have a few minutes to explain what they admired in the system they researched. You will also have time to walk around and view everything that was written by all the groups.

**Assessment (Quiz Grade)**

-Quality/volume of information put on the butcher paper

-Quality/pertinence and conciseness of information shared with the class orally

-Dedication to the task during work time