

Date: December 13, 2017	GHS Seminar
Grade Level: 9-12	
Recommended Sequence	Seminar Meeting
Objective(s) / Learning Target(s):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will discuss what it means to be grateful 2. Students will brainstorm things they are grateful for 3. Students will be kind and donate to items to be sent to St. Thomas on December 20th. 4. Students will demonstrate kindness and empathy for others
Materials Needed:	Projector Scratch paper Pen or pencil Possibly NYT article - https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/27/us/hurricane-maria-virgin-islands.html
Suggested Process:	<p>Start by having students share any good news they may have since the last time you met.</p> <p><i>Ask the following:</i> Which emoji would you use to show you are grateful? What is your definition of grateful? (2-3 minutes)</p> <p><i>After listening to/discussing answers, show the following:</i> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sokh9e2WGc</p> <p><i>Ask students to:</i> Write down three things – not people, things - you are grateful for and why.</p> <p><i>Give students the option of sharing out one – or all three – things for which they are grateful. (Seminar teachers may need to start the ball rolling by sharing one of their things.)</i></p> <p><i>Ask:</i> Now how would you feel if those things were taken from you?</p> <p>https://vimeo.com/236350582</p> <p>What did you notice from that video? What do you think island life is like in the wake of two category 5 hurricanes? (<i>Write on board or keep list on your computer</i>)</p> <p><i>Share the NOAA table and discuss the damage associated with a Cat.5.</i> http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pdf/sshws_table.pdf <i>Please make sure you point out and discuss the last sentence under Power and Water . “Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or</i></p>

months.”

What do we do after an act of nature (tornado, sheer winds, ice storms, etc)? *(Write on board or keep list on your computer)*

There was a Home Depot on St. Thomas. It was destroyed by the hurricanes.

The Kmart was also destroyed.

Those were the two main places to shop for items.

The islands lost power because of these hurricanes. The residential areas will be the last areas to get their power back. They are hoping the electricity will be restored before Easter, but they aren’t holding their breath. The power companies, who have been sent to the islands to help, are on a 12 month contract.

How many of the things we listed as “things we’d do” would we actually be able to do? *(Discuss)*

The schools on the island have recently started their school year. Their first day of school was scheduled for the day Irma hit, September 6. They are currently “at about 60%.” They are having school in split shifts. One group will attend in the morning and the other attends in the afternoon.

Since they are not getting full days of school, the senior class is concerned they will not be able to graduate due to lack of hours. Seniors are also required to pass exams in order to graduate and the senior year is prep for these exams. Not attending full time has them worried they will be ill prepared for their exams. Add to that the fact they are unable to obtain their transcripts or a current GPA, for scholarships and grants, and you have students who are completely unsure of their futures.

So what can we do? Our goal is to make this school year better for them by sending materials they need. Right now both students and teachers are ill-equipped to have “normal” school year. Each seminar grade will have a different group of items to bring. Our goal is to make them a little bit happier by getting items for them.

Here are the lists for each grade:

FRESHMEN

chalk - white and colored

index cards

post its

thumbtacks

staples

staple removers

glue

	<p><u>SOPHOMORES</u> Loose-leaf paper crayons colored pencils magic markers erasable pens highlighters pencils (no mechanical pencils)</p> <p><u>JUNIORS</u> graph paper pencil cases glitter glue sticks scissors enclosed pencil sharpener rulers</p> <p><u>SENIORS</u> construction paper file folders dry erase markers pens (multi color) permanent markers paper clips - all sizes scotch tape</p> <p><i>Teachers: Please take a few minutes to decide who will get items for your groups. If a couple of students would like to team up to get items, that's great!</i></p>
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:	<p>If you have additional time left, you may share – and discuss - this article: https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/27/us/hurricane-maria-virgin-islands.html</p>