WestVirginiaUniversity
THE RESEARCH REPOSITORY @ WVU

West Virginia Connection | Hidden Figures

2017

History of Desegregation in West Virginia - Lesson Plan

Ashley Porter

Follow this and additional works at: https://researchrepository.wvu.edu/wvc

Part of the Curriculum and Instruction Commons, Gender, Race, Sexuality, and Ethnicity in Communication Commons, and the History Commons

Ashley Porter
ENGL 405
Prof. Hathaway
12/5/17

Lesson Plan for Teachers

The lesson plan in this correlates to the book Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly. This plan shows the history of the desegregation in the state of West Virginia and provides facts about what happened during that time. This will give you the ability to give a brief history to fully understand the hardship for African Americans, and also to show students how the education system has changed overtime. This history lesson connects with Hidden Figures because there is a direct connection to the educational system to the real-life people Katherine Johnson and Dorothy Vaughan. Both had attended schools in the state of West Virginia (particularly in the Morgantown area). Dorothy's family moved to Morgantown, West Virginia when she was eight (Shetterly, 28). She then went through school there, graduating from Beechurst High School as the valedictorian (Shetterly, 28). Katherine was a college student at West Virginia State College but went for a semester at West Virginia University. Katharine also had a huge hand in the integration of graduate school in West Virginia. I feel like this would be a good lesson to correlate with the reading.

The lesson plan that I have particularly in mind is set for the eighth graders whom I feel will be able to do and easily accomplish this. A PowerPoint is what I feel would best for the information that is given in this paper, but you can you any form of presentation medium that you would feel worked best with your teaching style. In correlation to this presentation, you can make a fill in the blank handout for the students. This will correlate with the presentation so that not only will your students have to be engaged and read the presentation but there also won't be

the drag of too many notes for students. Before class if the you choose to do so, you can assign (or random assign at the end of class) someone to pass their notes to be scanned for the students who have missed that day. This gives students the accountability that they need to do their work. You, the English teacher, can use this during your class if you want to give a background or you can speak to your colleague teaching social studies to find a correlation to double up on this idea together. If you feel that you need to have more information in the presentation, then add point about Katharine Johnson and Dorothy Vaughan to bring it back to fully showing the connection to the assigned reading. I feel that this plan can also be executed in one lesson or if you would like to, stretch it into multiple sections.

Either way this would be a great addition to either history or English class settings. This can also give the students a broader understanding in how we got to where we are as well as the hardships that Katharine and Dorothy went through to get to their point of working with NACA (to be later called NASA). You can edit and produce this into something that you feel would be better suited for your teaching style if you wish to do so. Everyone teaches and learns along different scales, ways, and mediums. Have fun with it!

Works Cited:

A Brief History of Kelly Miller High School, compiled by Victorine A. Louistall, July 1, 1969.

Biography.com Editors. “Dorothy Johnson Vaughan Biography.com.” The Biography.com website. A&E Television Networks, 14 Nov. 2016. Web. 16 Nov. 2017. www.biography.com/people/dorothy-johnson-vaughan-111416

Ernest, Harry W. “State Moves Toward Integration/25 Counties Have Already Taken Action/Greenbrier School Union Is Delayed By Public Protests” West Virginia Division of Culture and History. Charleston Gazzette, 19 Sept. 1954. Web. 16 Nov. 2017. www.wvculture.org/history/africanamericans/schoolintegration004.html

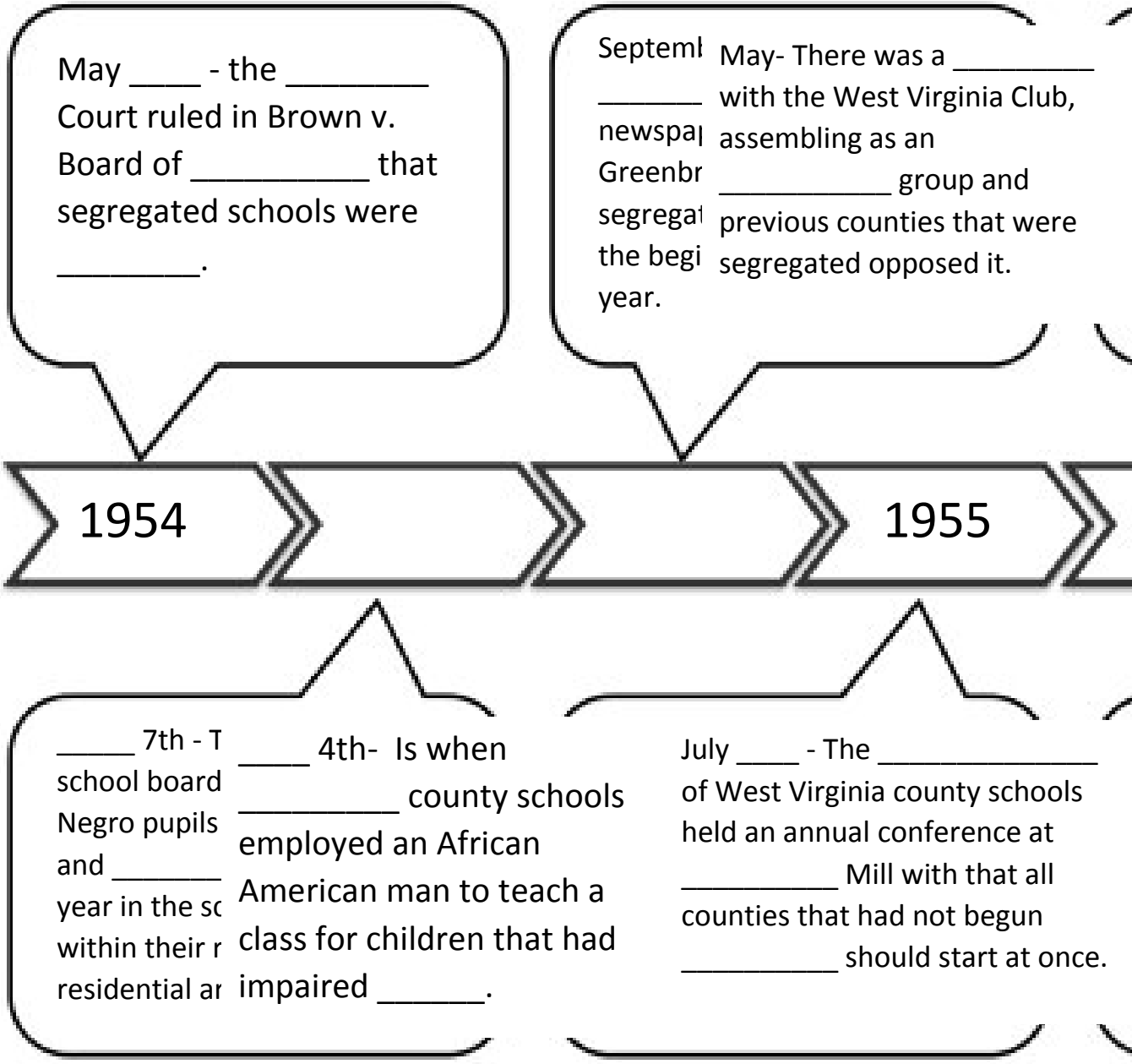
Loff, Sarah. “Dorothy Vaughan Biography.” NASA, NASA, 22 Nov. 2016, www.nasa.gov/content/dorothy-vaughan-biography

Loff, Sarah. “Katherine Johnson Biography.” NASA, NASA, 22 Nov. 2016, www.nasa.gov/content/katherine-johnson-biography.

Rice, Connie P. Our Monongalia: A History of African Americans in Monongalia County, West Virginia. Terra Alta, WV: Headline Books, 1999. Print.

Shetterly, Margot L. Hidden Figures: Young Readers' Edition. Harpercollins Childrens B, 2016. Print.

Trent, W. W. “Mountaineer Education: A Story of Education in West Virginia 1885-1957.” West Virginia Division of Culture and History. West Virginia Division of Culture and History, 2015. Web. 16 Nov. 2017. www.wvculture.org/history/education/trent.html

"QuickFacts." U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts selected: West Virginia, U.S. Census Bureau. Web. 16 Nov. 2017. www.census.gov/quickfacts/WV.

Timeline for: