



East Lansing Info

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ASSIGNMENT THREE

This assignment should be completed after watching/reviewing the sixth module of the ELi Reporter Training, Writing and Reporting.

There are two options for this assignment. Either:

1. Submit a story that you've already written that exemplifies your journalistic experience

OR

2. Complete a story exercise by writing a story using the following hypothetical information:

- Former long-time school nurse Ema Stiltan died in a car accident last December
- Part-time teacher aide Betty Figgs has been covering Ema Stiltan's responsibilities
- Principal Stella Reeves will meet with parents on Thursday, April 4, to discuss her proposal to eliminate the nurse's position for next school year.
- Reeves proposed keeping Figgs to avoid hiring a new nurse
- "I was impressed by her [Figgs] competence as a nurse," Reeves said.
- "Most of my job is routine. I distribute prescribed medicine to students and see a few students with headaches or stomach aches every day," Figgs said. "When something major happens, we call parents or EMS. I only had to call EMS once this year when a student had a negative reaction to medicine he took at home."
- With the savings, Reeves wants to hire a new teacher — a move unanimously supported by teachers.
- "I thought the parents would jump on board with this proposal," Reeves said. "It will decrease our class sizes and benefit students directly."
- One group of parents labeled the proposal "short-sighted and dangerous."
- "The school should not compromise student safety simply to give teachers fewer papers to grade," parent Raquel Simmons said. "I have a special needs child who is quite fragile," Simones said. "If he suffers a seizure at school, I want a certified nurse to help him."

- “The school has not received a single complaint about Figgs since she took over in the nurse’s office. She is very organized and handles all the issues professionally and efficiently,” Reeves said. “Plus she agreed to additional training this summer.”
- “The school needs a full-time, certified nurse. My brother, who will be a freshman next year, has a really bad peanut allergy. A nurse is trained to deal with this medical condition,” junior Gigi Smith said. “A teacher’s aide isn’t. I like Ms. Figgs, but she could panic. That would be very bad for my brother.”
- “We need all the help we can get reducing our numbers,” English teacher Yvonne Guitierrez said. “These parents need to understand how tough it is to teach 31 kids in one class and grade 164 essays. The workload is too much. Class sizes have increased from 25 to 29 since 2010. I can’t believe it.”

Once you’ve completed either story, please put it in a document for submission.