

## Process Paper

After learning that this year's theme was "Breaking Barriers", we decided we wanted to choose a topic that was relevant to where we live. We consulted one of our teachers and asked if she knew of anything that had "broke barriers" in Iowa. She brought up Flight 232 and said that we should conduct some research to see if it fit our guidelines. Our group sat down together and started to research Flight 232. We quickly learned that Flight 232 did indeed "Break Barriers" in one way or another.

We started to conduct research about Flight 232 in November. First, we made a list of people we wanted to contact about Flight 232. However, many people that we wanted to contact had passed away since the incident. Our group found out that the Woodbury County emergency management director was Gary Brown at the time of the crash. We were able to get in contact with Mr. Brown and set up a time that we could meet with him to interview him. Before meeting with Mr. Brown, we went to the *Sioux City Public Museum* and saw the exhibit they had on Flight 232. We then went to the museum's research center and looked through documents they had on Flight 232. They had many articles from newspapers and magazines, letters from citizens and politicians, photographs, and statements. We then compiled a list of questions we had for Mr. Brown for the interview. He met us at our school, and we recorded the interview to document what he said. First, he showed us a presentation about Flight 232. Then, we asked him the questions that we had.

We selected our type of project after meeting and discussing the benefits of each type of project. Our group decided to do a website because one of us has made a website before and we wanted to have the option to put audio clips of the interview in our project. Our team then went

through our information and decided what points we thought were most important to the theme “Breaking Barriers” and built off of that.

Our project related to the NHD theme because Flight 232 broke barriers in different communities in Sioux City and beyond. The emergency plan that was in operation at the time of the crash “broke barriers” because it had included many different organizations in the community including the fire department, hospitals, cellular companies, law enforcement, the Iowa National Guard, and many more. The plan had brought these organizations together to make a plan that they believed would save lives in the event of a disaster and it did. The Sioux City community itself also ‘broke barriers’ by coming together to support the survivors of the crash and responders by providing food, clothing, and lodging.