

Reflections on Collaboration

It would be disingenuous to state that coming to this collaboration of outstanding Mercy educators tasked with the enormity of writing *nationwide* curriculum for both English and social studies departments was not a little nerve-wracking and daunting. But with a combined 70 plus years of Catholic education and specifically *Mercy* education we knew we could rely upon both the wisdom and fresh ideas of each other. Key to our collaboration was honesty, respect, open mindedness, and courage of conviction.

The range of personalities, vocations, and life experiences was truly a microcosm American society. Male, female, young, young at heart, all of us challenging each other to not just tolerate but to deeply understand viewpoints counter to our own. The guiding factor was always Mercy. In this intensive time a synergy was achieved; the sum was more than the parts contributed. It is our prayer that you enjoy the fruits of our labor half as much as we did in its creation.

God Bless