**Name:**

**Block: G.A.P. Research Initiative**

**Teacher:**

Dear Drake student,

I know that you are hard at work this year attending Drake University but one of your professors, Mr. Patterson, mentioned you as being one of his top students. I have decided then to present you with a unique opportunity to change the world.

The *Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation* is an organization that is working to solve some of the world’s most pressing problems. The foundation plans to donate over $38,000,000,000 over the next twenty years! One area that the Gates Foundation wants to expand its work is in Sub-Saharan Africa. Bill and I are old war buddies and he asked me to identify current issues/problems that are currently affecting the continent.

Regardless of whether your issue/problem is chosen by the Gates Foundation your work will have an impact. A local middle school by the name of Callanan has set aside a week of study for current issues/problems affecting Africa. What you decide upon will be an option for other students to choose during this week.

This invitation to work with the *Bill and Melinda Gates* Foundation has only been extended to a select group of individuals. While you are working on your projects independently, please run your questions past this group before you ask Mr. Patterson

**All proposals must meet the following qualifications:**

 1. The proposal needs to be typed, researched, and meet the three paragraph minimum

2. The issue chosen needs to be affecting countries **within Sub-Saharan Africa**

 3. The issue also needs to have occurred primarily **between 1980 thru 2014**

I promised the *Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation* that we would have our proposals ready by DATE. I want to remind you of the importance the task given to you. Not only could your work bring about meaningful change it in Africa it will also shape a week of class at a local middle school. Make sure that give this assignment the hard work and dedication that it deserves.

Sincerely,

David Maxwell

President of Drake University