### Seminar Program Summary 2014-2015

**Site Name:** THURGOOD MARSHALL MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Site Address:** 9700 AVENUE OF NATIONS

**Site Contact Person:** WENDY KARCH OR MICHELLE IRWIN

**Contact Person email:** WKARCH@SANDI.NET / MIRWIN1@SANDI.NET

**Phone:** 858-549-5400

**Emphasis:** Humanities (English/Social Studies)

**Teacher(s)*:** JOSEPH LEPETRI, TAMMY MCDANIEL, WENDY KARCH, CHERYL CONVERSE-RATH, CHRIS
Y NIEDZWIECKI PRESTON, NANCY GARCIA, LAURA DIPIETRO, JEAN CHALUPSKY, STEVE OLDS, FRANCESCA
ZANGARA-MAcSON

**The School Environment/Mission Statement:**

At Thurgood Marshall Middle School, our instructional focus is to meet the needs of our 21st
century learners. We believe we must provide opportunities for our students to be critical
thinkers, problem solvers and communicators. We believe our students need opportunities
to analyze and synthesize information to solve problems with a new perspective.
It is our mission to provide a learning environment that will enable each student to reach
his/her highest potential in a safe, threat-free atmosphere. Our educational approach will
combine exploration and creativity, discipline and dedication, teamwork and individuality.
Students will achieve academic excellence through participation in a strong core curriculum
as well as elective, exploratory and community service programs. They will develop critical
thinking and effective communication skills and the ability to make reasoned moral and
ethical choices. They will practice tolerance in preparation for life in a multicultural society.
We will provide a strong guidance program that addresses the physical, social and emotional
needs of our students. Students will leave us prepared for the broadest range of academic
options in high school.

**Curriculum modifications to provide depth, novelty and complexity:**

- Debates, using strategies from Kohlberg to examine moral reasoning and Taba for logical
development
- Tiered lessons to support individual student needs
- Linking of historical situations and themes to current events
- Use of primary source research as the basis for analytical writing
- Vocabulary development, including the study of morphemes

**Opportunities for student choice and creative expression:**

- Original plays, historical dramatizations and poetry
- Simulations
- Independent student directed research projects
**Unique activities and approaches:**

- Interdisciplinary study of fine arts, practical arts and literature
- History with a focus on accuracy

*Teacher is GATE certified with at least three years experience **This description is subject to change*