Case Study and Community Study Final Paper

This assignment is tied to the interview assignment. As a result of findings from your interview, course readings, and school/community visits and observations you will write a 1500-2000-word final paper.

Summarize the information you have learned about the school, family and language and literacy backgrounds for this student. In addition to knowing your student and the family well, for this assignment you will need to gather additional information about the school context of the student. Research the instructional context for your case study student. Find out about the language and literacy resources available in this community. Also research the socioeconomic history of the community, look up community based organizations that may be supporting the school and connect this history to your findings (Part III of your interview assignment).

The goal of the essay is not to summarize, but to make connections between our in-class readings and discussions on policy and practice and what you actually see, hear and experience at the school/community. The paper will synthesize using an asset-based approach and discuss how community practices, resources, and history may affect the schooling of ELLs in general. You will use course readings, research, and artifacts and data from your observations of the school community to think critically about the challenges that schools and families face and what is being done to improve education for English Learners. Make sure you don’t fall behind on this assignment, and schedule your first school/community visit as soon as possible.