VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL OF GREATER ROCHESTER
HIGHLAND PARK SOUTH
STUDENT WALK-THROUGH ACTIVITY GUIDE
ROTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

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DEDICATED TO OUR COMMUNITY SEPTEMBER 8, 1996

- TO COMMEMORATE
- TO EDUCATE
- TO HEAL

NAME:_____

THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL OF GREATER ROCHESTER

Background Facts:

- **Dedicated on September 8, 1996**

- **Dr. Barry R. Culhane and Mr. Max Lill were instrumental in the creation of the memorial**

- **Ten years of contributions made it a reality**

- **Two acre educational park**

- **The memorial has three main goals: to commemorate, to educate, and to heal**

- **Park has _five_ major components:**
  1. Timeline Snapshot
  2. The Wall of Honor
  3. The Veterans Garden
  4. The Learning Center
  5. The Garden of Reflection

Note: The memorial contains 280 stainless steel bollards (markers) for each local man who died / killed or MIA

*Tour the Vietnam Memorial of Greater Rochester by logging on to website: www.vietnamemorial.org

Memorial Tour

*Directions: As you tour the memorial, visit each "station" and answer the questions.

Station #1 - INTRODUCTION (located near the entrance of the memorial)

1. What is the purpose of the Veterans Garden portion of the memorial?

2. What is the purpose of the Learning Center?

3. What is the purpose of the Garden of Reflection?

4. What is the purpose for the Wall of Honor?

5. What is the intent of the Timeline Snapshot?

6. Describe the etching on the backside of this monument. What is being shown here?

   What does the etching indicate about the Vietnam War?

Station #2 – **MAP OF THE WORLD (Overlook – Under the flags)**

Study the map inscribed in the walk beneath the flag display.

1. **What continent is North and South Vietnam located on?**

2. **What ocean separates North and South Vietnam from the United States?**

3. **What latitude line separates North and South Vietnam?**

4. **How did the location of North and South Vietnam from the United States influence public opinion toward the Vietnam War (conflict)?**

Station #3 – THINGS THEY CARRIED (Located near the entrance of the memorial on the wall, by the stairs)

As you begin your walk down the path through the memorial, read the plague entitled "Things They Carried" on the left side of you. Answer the following questions.

1. List five things a soldier might carry.

   1)

   2)

   3)

   4)

   5)

2. Give the names of two diseases a soldier might be carrying.

   1)

   2)

Station #4 – TIMELINE SNAPSHOT (Located along the Walk of Honor near the ground)

As you walk down the path through the memorial, notice the timeline of world events on the ground to your left. Using the timeline, answer the following questions.

1. What year marks the beginning of the timeline?

2. Find June 1956. Read the words of Senator John F. Kennedy. He declared reasons why the United States should support the South Vietnamese government. What were his reasons?

3. Find 1957 on the timeline and read the inscription. What is the "domino theory"?

Station #5 – MEDAL OF HONOR GROVE (Located along the Walk of Honor, large granite stone, faces the Walk of Honor)

What is the Medal of Honor? Read the definition below.

The Medal of Honor is the highest US military decoration. It was first awarded in the American Civil war in 1882. Congress awards the Medal of Honor. It is bestowed by the President to a member of the armed forces for gallantry and bravery in combat at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty.

Rochester recipients of the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War.
From: Wikipedia

1. **Gary Burnell Beikirch** (born August 29, 1947) is a former United States Army soldier who received the United States military's highest decoration, the Medal of Honor, for his actions in the Vietnam War. A combat medic, Beikirch was awarded the medal for exposing himself to intense fire in order to rescue and treat the wounded, and for continuing to provide medical care despite his own serious wounds, during a battle at Camp Dak Seang, Vietnam.

2. **William Thomas Perkins, Jr.** (August 10, 1947 – October 12, 1967) was a United States Marine who posthumously received the United States' highest military decoration for valor — the Medal of Honor — for his heroic action on October 12, 1967 during the Vietnam War in which he smothered an exploding grenade with his body to save the lives of three fellow Marines. Perkins is the only combat photographer to have received the Medal of Honor.

Read the inscription on the monument entitled "Medal of Honor Grove". Answer the questions.

1. What does it mean to receive the Medal of Honor?

2. When did Congress establish this award (Date)?

3. Who presents the medal?

4. What are the names of the two local recipients who received the Congressional Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War?
   1)

   2)

Station #6 – THE LEARNING CENTER (Located at the end of the memorial, stone benches and informational monuments)

As you walk through the Learning Center, read each monument. Use the information from the monuments to answer the following questions.

Monument Name: Rochesterians: A Tradition of Service

War	Number who served	Casualties
WWI	_____	_____
WWII	_____	_____
Korean War	_____	_____
Vietnam War	_____	_____

Monument Name: Always Remembered

How many prisoners of war have been recorded in Vietnam? _____

How many did in captivity? _____

How many were mission in action? _____

Monument Name: Hello David

How many women served in Vietnam? _____

How many were nurses? _____

Monument Name: The Price of War

How many Americans served in Vietnam? _____

How many people did the U.S. Military lose in the war? _____

How much did the war cost Americans in dollars?

_____Direct expenses

_____Indirect expenses

Station #7 – LOCATING RUSH-HENRIETTA VETERANS
Locate each bollard (marker) for each of the six RH graduates who served and were killed in Vietnam. Walk along the Walk of Honor. Write their names below.

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE. YOU WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN.