

Dana Lee Bell

Archives 580

Dr. Kole

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This week I tried to get grounded in curating. I was able to meet with Erin and she is such a patient person and a good teacher. We went over a few different types of curations and tried to look for things that may have changed since this summer. There are a few differences. But not many. I always get this feeling when I am curating that I am going to mess everything up. That I will cause trouble for others later. I keep trying to remind myself that there will be people checking the work. But I feel the weight of trying to do my best.

The idea that something I am doing in this life might last beyond me is a heavy one. The idea that maybe my grandchildren will read my journal and what we did here in the archives. They might someday see my additions or work. Our names are all over something that maybe useful long after we are gone. In a sense, this work is apart of the histories too. I started a journal this summer based on Dr. Kole's recommendation. Probably the best advice. She said, that journals from the past are important and so will ours possibly be. So I started a journal. It is a mix of curation notes, notes on the items I have curated, current events, my thoughts about this plague, and how it has impacted us. It is a mess. But I will be able to look back on this year and really remember.

Silences is something that I think often about. Especially with this rapid response archive. I fear that so many people have no access to the technology needed to be apart of this. For example, my students have struggled with distance learning. Some have no wifi at all. No technology at home. Our district has hustled to get these kids what they need for school. But still, the children struggle with an understanding of technologies and their parents are struggling so hard to help their kids with things they do not understand themselves. This may be a silence we can not help our children with. But it is a silence none the less.