US History Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Primary Sources

1. Imagine that you saw a fight in the hall. One of the participants is your best friend but you get called in the principal’s office to tell what **you** saw. Your story (evidence) will help Mrs. Jonas decide who gets suspended for the most days and who could be charged by the police. What might you tell Mrs. Jonas about what happened? Tell your side of the story here:
2. Historical Accuracy with Primary Sources
   1. What do you know, or think you know, about Paul Revere? Hint – “the British are coming…”
   2. How do you know what you know about Paul Revere?
3. The Boston Massacre
   1. What are three objects, people, or events in the picture?
   2. Which side do you think this picture represents? The colonists or the British? Why?
   3. What do you think “the other” side might have to say about the event?

1. **Primary Source Activity**

We have been talking about historiography and will talk about good writing. Now you will use what you learned to practice historiography. Historians must use multiple sources to tell the story. You will also be required to use multiple sources to tell the story of the Boston Massacre.

A short explanation: Primary Sources vs. Secondary Sources

Many historians gather history from primary sources. A primary source is something from the time in history you are studying. For example, an excellent primary source is a journal or diary written by someone from the time and place you are studying. Other primary sources that historians consider important are called ephemera or items from daily life that give clues to what the world was like. These can be tickets for travel, receipts for purchases, or anything that people from that time used in daily life.

1. **In your own words summarize the meaning of a primary source and give two examples, one must be ephemera.**

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Secondary sources are considered anything written or told about the time in history by someone who has already studied it. It is secondary because the person telling the history did not live in that time. An example of a secondary source is a book written about a time or place in the past.

Some secondary sources are history textbooks and magazine articles.

1. **In your own words summarize what a secondary source is and give an example.**

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1. **Is their value in looking at primary sources? What is the value? Are there limitations when looking at primary sources? What are the limits?**

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1. On your own research about the Boston Massacre

<http://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/road-revolution/resources/boston-massacre>

Go to this website and choose two primary sources (other than the lithograph by Paul Revere) and one secondary source about the Boston Massacre. Take notes below and be sure to indicate which source you were looking at/reading :

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1. 8 Sentence Paragraph – Use page 4 of the “Writing Resource Book” (the blue one). Use your notes from above to provide evidence and examples and details.

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