Christopher Clark

May 10, 2021

EDUC 784: Capstone Seminar

**Capstone Reflection**

*During the process of completing this design-based capstone project, what did you learn about the topic and what did you learn about yourself?*

During this Capstone Project, I learned how much I did not know about the reasons which influence educational inequality. Through the course of reading the background information which informed my reasoning for coming up with the topic, so much of what I read did not include specific numbers for specific places. Examining the numbers, both for the district I once attended (Pittsfield), and now the one that my daughter attends (Lenox), puts into stark relief the wide differences between the two districts. While it is easy to blame race or economy in simple terms for the differences in outcomes, the reality of the matter is, to borrow the phrase, not simply that black and white. There is a ton of grey area for differences in education and what leads to the differences in outcomes I examined during the Project.

I learned that, like many public-school students, I am not a fan of learning virtually. I struggled this semester with class being online. I struggle to maintain focus, particularly after teaching all day with meeting online and much prefer to meet in person. I think I would have found it easier to maintain focus during classes if we were meeting in person. While I managed to persevere through completing class and the Capstone Project, I struggled with meeting deadlines and completing work due to the seeming blur of speed this semester. I learned that I am able to work independently though I perhaps need more of a kick in the rear to get things accomplished than I thought.