Student Reviews: Land of Hope

Arizona Public High School U.S. History Teacher:

"Here is a sample of reviews from my students about the Land of Hope. They are representative of the class as a whole: Overall, the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. (And this is the [1st edition] version of the book without subheadings or pictures.)

The students gave permission for these to be shared with other schools that might be considering using Land of Hope. The quotes are included here without the names, but they were all written by juniors studying US history…"

Describe your experience this year of using the Land of Hope textbook. What has it been like to learn history by reading this book?

- "The Land of Hope textbook feels more engaging to me. It does a good job at being descriptive and making you realize just how tense/terrifying some events truly were."

- "I enjoy the book and I don't just read it because I have to, which is something I have yet to experience in a history class. I think this book should be used in the following years because it is a great book to teach and learn about history."

- "I think it is more understandable. I can actually get what the book is talking about and I can keep the facts and knowledge in my head."

- "The Land of Hope textbook has given me a great experience learning U.S. history. With this textbook, I was able to picture history not just as a series of events, but as a story, where there is deep characters and difficult decisions to be done. It is not just "this happened", it gives a lot of details of how it happened and it also dives surprisingly deep on historical figures."

- "I really like the land of hope textbook because it drives the readers attention to the history. It really made me intrigued and more curious about American history."

How do you think our textbook this year compares to the history textbook you used last year?

- "Compared to last year's history textbook, this is much better. This current textbook feels more engaging and uses more wordplay than the previous one which would just state facts and that was about it."

- "One of the biggest differences is how it is not an online book. Taking a break from doing everything on a computer feels really good, especially for my eyes, and I honestly wish more classes were like that."

- "The history textbook I used last year was online so it's different from the book I use now. I think the online book would distract others because they wouldn't read and instead play games."

- "This year's text book is good, I feel like it gives more context and background information than last year's book."

- "The book makes you want to read more while Savvas sometimes just overloaded you with so many facts you couldn't keep up unless you broke it down properly."