

## WORKING AS AN INDIVIDUAL VERSUS WORKING IN A GROUP

### WORKING AS AN INDIVIDUAL

#### + ADVANTAGES

- You will increase your independence.
- You will be the sole decision maker.
- You can work when and where you want.
- You will not face differences in opinion and work ethic.

#### - DISADVANTAGES

- You will be responsible for all costs.
- You won't use collaborative skills.
- You won't have a partner(s) to motivate you during "down times."

### WORKING AS A GROUP

#### + ADVANTAGES

- You can improve collaborative skills.
- You can share project costs.
- You can make decisions together.
- You can draw on one another's strengths and talents.

#### - DISADVANTAGES

- You may have scheduling difficulties.
- You may have differences of opinion.
- You may have differences in work ethics.
- You will have increased communication demands.

### Choosing a Group

1. Be careful about whom you work with: this is **your grade** you are dealing with. Remember: Requirements for your class project grade increase with additional group members. Also consider how a partner might be in advanced competition should you win.
2. Do you have **similar interests**?
3. Do you have **complementary skills and assets**?  
Writing? Art? Word processing/computer skills? Telephone? Parents willing to transport to libraries and/or interviews? Acting? Speaking voice?
4. Is each of your partners **reliable**? Do you know how to reach them by phone? Do they have regular school attendance? In advanced competition all group members must be present for judging.
5. Do your parents know each other? (This is especially helpful for transportation and weekend work sessions.)
6. Be very careful when choosing to work with friends. Make sure you can **work well together**. Many friendships have ended during a History Fair project. Partners should have similar work habits and goals.

**\*\*NO CHANGES AFTER**

Feb. 11