# Integrating Textual Evidence Into Summary-based Reports

When it comes to improving student learning, many teachers recognize they are attempting to force students to learn by the carrot or punishment of grades. The reason they resort to this motivational stick is that many students do not see the value of what the school curriculum would have them learn. It's not fun, it's not entertaining, it's not a game or social media. **Utah state Senator Aaron Osmond's** 2013 legislative proposal addressed this issue. He stated in introducing SB71 that "we need to shift the public mindset to recognize that education is a not an obligation, but an opportunity to be treasured and respected." **Osmond believes that** if we make school attendance optional and not compulsory, this mindset shift will occur in students and parents, and students will see the education provided to them as the privilege it is and not the obligation we have turned it into.

Osmond's proposal faced much opposition, however. **Salt Lake City School board member Michael Clara**, called Osmond's idea a "publicity stunt." **Clara argued that** allowing school attendance to be by volunteer only would create "a subclass of illiterates on a large scale." Allowing teens to opt out of going to school because they don't feel like going is not likely to create an enlightened appreciation of school as a privilege, as Osmond claims.

►Note the pattern of source integration, **guided by signal phrases**:

- **introduce** (background/summary/relevant discussion/source identification)
- **use** (direct quote, paraphrase, or summary—with documentation)
- **comment** (interpret, analyze, connect, draw conclusions)

► Source integration creates a "sandwich" in which your source material (textual evidence) is surrounded by YOUR ideas, analysis, and conclusions. The source material serves YOUR explanations, and the focus is on YOUR explanations, analysis, and conclusions. So when it comes to using sources, "make me a sandwich."



Introduce

Use (summarize, paraphrase, quote)

Comment