Envelope 1:

Title: Ending **Radical Indoctrination** in K-12 Schooling EXECUTIVE ORDER January 29, 2025	The definition of the word *radical* is: "advocating or based on thorough or complete political or social change; representing or supporting an extreme or progressive section of a political party."
Something that is *radical* is either working towards or based on the idea of a big change to society. It could also represent an extreme or progressive section of a certain political party, either Democrats or Republicans. An example of a "radical" idea would be something called Universal Basic Income, which means that every adult in a country gets a certain amount of money, no matter what. That would be a radical idea on the democratic side. On the republican side, a radical idea would be that talking negatively about your country should be illegal.	The definition of the word *indoctrination* is: the process of teaching a person or group to accept a set of beliefs uncritically, or without thinking through it on their own.
A synonym for *indoctrination* is brainwashing.	An *executive order* is a law that comes straight from the president. Usually, laws have to be approved by Congress before they become official. With an executive order, though, the president can go around Congress. However, this law can still be challenged by the courts. We will learn about this next year!
So, the president filed an executive order that is called: Ending Radical Indoctrination in K-12 Schooling. Now that we know what "radical" and "indoctrination" mean, **what parts of school do you think he is worried about? What do we learn that could be considered "radical indoctrination"?** Write your answer on a sticky note and put it in the appropriate section of the room.	

Questions:

1. What do we learn that could be considered "radical indoctrination"?
2. What does the worry seem to be behind teaching certain ideas in our classrooms?

Envelope 2:

The executive order states: “Parents trust America’s schools to provide their children with a rigorous education and to instill a patriotic admiration for our incredible Nation and the values for which we stand.” **Do you agree that this is the purpose of school? Why or why not? Discuss with your partner.**	*“Discriminatory equity ideology”* is a term used in this executive order. Based on this phrase and the definitions in this envelope, what do you think they mean by “discriminatory equity ideology”? (If you are confused, I also found this phrase confusing! Do your best and work together) Write your answer on a sticky note and put it in the appropriate section of the room.
In this Executive Order, they state that one way “discriminatory equity ideology” is present in schools is that: “	Ideology means “a system of ideas and ideals, especially one which forms the basis of economic or political theory and policy.”
Discriminatory means “making or showing an unjust or prejudicial distinction between different categories of people, especially on the grounds of ethnicity, sex, age, or disability. (synonym: prejudiced)”	Equity means: “the quality of being fair and impartial. (often considered the opposite of discrimination or inequity)”

Questions:

1. What is “discriminatory equity ideology”?

Envelope 3:

In this Executive Order, *discriminatory equity ideology* is defined as: "an ideology that treats individuals as members of preferred (powerful) or disfavored groups, rather than as individuals, and minimizes agency, merit, and capability in favor of immoral generalizations." How does this compare with the definition you and your partner created? Discuss this with your partner.	"Preferred or disfavored groups" could be restated as "powerful and disadvantaged groups" or "groups that are privileged and groups that are discriminated against"
"minimizes agency, merit, and capability in favor of immoral generalizations." is a phrase this definition uses. This could be restated as "people's agency, ability, and strengths are ignored in favor of immoral generalizations."	A generalization is a broad statement made that applies to a large group of people, and is often untrue. For example, "all women's favorite color is blue." **What do you think they mean in this definition by "immoral generalizations"? What is an immoral generalization that you have seen in your life, or in our society?** Write your answer on a sticky note and put it in the appropriate section of the room.

Questions:

1. What do you think they mean in this definition by "immoral generalizations"? What is an immoral generalization that you have seen in your life, or in our society?

Envelope 4:

For this envelope, we are going to start digging into the "immoral generalizations" that the president believes are happening in schools.	The word "immoral" means "not conforming to accepted standards of morality." Some synonyms are "morally bad" or "wrong."
Something that they call an "immoral generalization" is: "Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally or inherently superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin" For something to be "inherently superior" means that it is automatically superior, no matter what.	<u>Restate this phrase in your own words, and put it in the appropriate section of the room:</u> "Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally or inherently superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin"
If you had to guess, what do you think this phrase refers to? "Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally or inherently superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin" <u>Write your answer and put it in the appropriate section of the room.</u>	Where in our society do you see people assuming that "Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally or inherently superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin"? Discuss with your partner.

Questions:

1. <u>Restate this phrase in your own words, and put it in the appropriate section of the room:</u> "Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally or inherently superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin"
2. If you had to guess, what do you think this phrase refers to? "Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally or inherently superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin" <u>Write your answer and put it in the appropriate section of the room.</u>
3. Where in our society do you see people assuming that "Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally or inherently superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin"?

Envelope 5:

Another “immoral generalization”, according to the executive order, is: (vii) Virtues such as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness, neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or sexist or were created by members of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin to oppress members of another race, color, sex, or national origin; or (viii) the United States is fundamentally racist, sexist, or otherwise discriminatory.	Do you think the United States is fundamentally racist, sexist, or otherwise discriminatory? Why or why not? <u>Write your answer on a sticky note and put it in the appropriate section of the classroom.</u>
Challenge question: "(vii) Virtues such as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness, neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or sexist or were created by members of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin to oppress members of another race, color, sex, or national origin;” How do you think that any of these virtues could be discriminatory? Discuss with your partner, and I want to hear your thoughts! So call me over, too.	

Questions:

1. Is the US discriminatory?

Envelope 6:

(a) The President's Advisory 1776 Commission ("1776 Commission"), which was created by Executive Order 13958 of November 2, 2020, to promote patriotic education, but was terminated by President Biden in Executive Order 13985 of January 20, 2021, is hereby reestablished. (So, the 1776 Commission was established by Trump to make sure students receive a "patriotic education." It was ended by Biden, and Trump is restarting it.)	What do you think a "patriotic education" is? <u>Write your answer on a sticky note and place it in the appropriate section of the classroom.</u>
According to this executive order, a "patriotic education" is "an accurate, honest, unifying, inspiring, and ennobling characterization of America's founding and foundational principles" Why do you think President Trump wants us to feel inspired by America's founding principles? Discuss with your partner.	According to the executive order, a "patriotic education" is also: (ii)a clear examination of how the United States has admirably grown closer to its noble principles throughout its history;
According to the executive order, a "patriotic education" is also: (iii) the concept that commitment to America's aspirations is beneficial and justified	According to the executive order, a "patriotic education" is also: (iv) the concept that celebration of America's greatness and history is proper.
How can we teach about slavery patriotically? Or the killing of Native Americans? <u>Discuss your thoughts with your partner, and write your answers on a sticky note. Place that sticky note in the appropriate section of the classroom.</u>	

Questions:

1. What do you think a "patriotic education" is?
2. How can we teach about slavery patriotically? Or the killing of Native Americans?