Defending Your Portfolio
At this point, you should have completed your teacher work sample (TWS). This series of activities will walk you through what is required of you for the defense of your professional portfolio. Your defense will consist of a formal presentation and answering questions about your TWS. This typically takes place via conference call.

What Happens Now?
Once you have successfully completed your TWS, your name will be transmitted to a portfolio facilitator. This facilitator will contact you to set up a time to discuss the requirements of the portfolio defense. When you talk to your facilitator, you can ask about the presentation length, date, and time. Prior to that phone call, read through this task so you have an idea of what to expect. You may also seek guidance from the TWS capstone community facilitator.

Preparing the Slide Show
Prepare a multimedia presentation (e.g., PowerPoint, Keynote) *(suggested length of 15–20 slides and approximately 30–45 minutes)* by doing the following:

A. Present an overview of your teacher work sample portfolio.

B. Explain the process you went through to develop your teacher work sample portfolio.
   1. Explain how your teacher work sample portfolio fits with current practices in the teaching field.
   2. Describe the classroom contextual factors you found.
   3. Describe the demographic characteristics and prior learning of the students in your classroom.
   4. Describe the learning goals and objectives covered by your unit.
   5. Describe your assessment plan.

C. Reflect on the methodologies and outcomes discussed in your teacher work sample portfolio by doing the following:
   1. Outline the special strategies or methodologies you used.
   2. Describe the decision-making process that influenced your choice of these strategies.
   3. Summarize your results and conclusions.
      a. Include the overall data results.
      b. Include the data broken out by subgroups.
   4. Discuss how your teacher work sample meets your state standards.

D. Discuss the challenges you faced in completing your teacher work sample portfolio.
   1. Outline any issues or obstacles you encountered.
   2. Explain the strategies you used to address these challenges.
      a. Evaluate the effectiveness of these strategies in allowing you to complete your project.
b. Predict how you could apply these strategies to other projects you develop.
3. Explain how you addressed classroom management issues.
4. Discuss how you adapted the strategies you used to meet the needs of individual students.

E. Discuss how you determined whether you accomplished your goals.

F. Discuss the weaknesses of the strategies discussed in your teacher work sample portfolio.
   1. Explain how you identified these weaknesses.
   2. Explain what revisions you could make to your strategies to address these weaknesses.

G. Discuss the strengths of the strategies discussed in your teacher work sample portfolio.
   1. Explain how you identified these strengths.
   2. Predict how you could apply these strengths to other classroom situations.

H. Discuss how you can apply what you learned from your teacher work sample portfolio in your professional work environment.

I. Describe examples of when you demonstrated the following dispositions:
   • Competent and caring
   • Respectful and embracing of diversity
   • Reflective
   • Equitable and fair
   • Professional practice consistent with the belief that all students can learn
   • Collaborative
   • Professional leader and change agent

J. Complete the release form.

K. Upload a copy of the final version of your slide show to TaskStream.

The Model Capstone Archive
Western Governors University has developed a Model Capstone Archive to display final capstone written work and presentations. When WGU archives your final capstone documents, these will be made available to current students, mentors, and evaluators after you have graduated. You will be able to determine whether you wish to participate in the Capstone Archive by completing a copy of the Capstone Waiver and Release Form (https://web5.wgu.edu/aap/content/model%20capstone%20archive%20release%20statement%2004.18.11.pdf) at the conclusion of your Capstone Oral Defense Task. By participating, your scholarship and effort at the University will be recognized, and you will have the satisfaction of contributing to the advancement of WGU and its students.

Since your final capstone project is to be shared with the WGU academic community, you will want to make sure that this represents your best work -- rigorous scholarship, research, and pedagogy. WGU has taken great care to ensure that safeguards are in place to guard the academic authenticity and the exposure of sensitive information. When you submit the capstone release statement you agree to voluntarily remove confidential information. This means not only your own personal details and contact information, but also information identifying co-workers, organizations, and their contact information. Here is further information about how your final

You will want to go to the Model Capstone Archive (https://sites.google.com/a/wgu.edu/model-capstones) to see examples of competent student work in your own program that represents some variety in the way students approach project requirements. Some of the materials housed there are artifacts produced along the way to the final capstone materials so that you can see what is involved during the entire process that you are about to undertake.