McFarland USA-Grade 9 Leadership

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

McFarland USA is the story of cross-country coach Jim White who transforms a team of athletes in a small California town into championship contenders. Themes presented in this film include teamwork, hard work, leadership and respect. Please complete 3 of the following questions:

1.) McFarland USA begins with Jim chastising his football team for a bad first half. One of his player’s mouths off to which Jim chucks a cleat at him and injures him. How should Jim have behaved differently? What’s a better way to motivate a poorly performing team during halftime? How does this display poor Leadership?

2.Why do you think Jim is so interested in starting a cross-country team? Are his intentions only with the athletes in mind?

3.) Why does Jim choose to work in the field with the boys? What does it teach him?

4.) What advantages do the McFarland boys have when running, despite their many disadvantages?

5.) Consider Jim’s journey as a coach throughout the film and name 3 ways in which he changes and becomes a better coach and role model.

6.) What role does teamwork and leadership play in McFarland’s success?