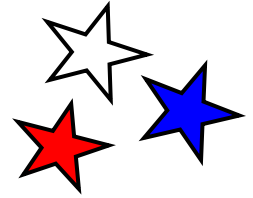


# Room 210's Class Constitution



## Meeting Schedule

*Lawmakers' meeting will be called Congress.*

*Lawmakers will be in session every day during the month of September*

*Lawmakers will be in session at least twice a week from October to June. (Amended by Representative Elena, 2012)*

*The president will decide on the agenda for congress (what bills will be discussed).*

## Division of Power

*In our class government the power will be divided among three branches.*

<i>Legislative Branch</i> <i>Students in Room 210</i>	<i>Executive Branch</i> <i>Ms. Thayer 1<sup>st</sup> Month then</i> <i>Student President</i>	<i>Judicial Branch</i> <i>Principals</i>
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## Article I: *Legislative Branch*

*The members of this branch will be responsible for creating bills and making the laws.*

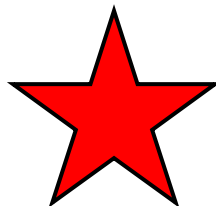
*This branch will be divided into two parts*

- *House of Representatives*
- *Senators*

*There will be 6 senators at a time. The rest of the class will be representatives.*

*Senators will be chosen by drawing names every six weeks.*

*A Speaker of the House will be elected by the representatives to be the House of Representative's leader. The Vice President will be the leader in the Senate. (Amended by Senator Ben K, 2016)*



### *Law making procedures*

*Ideas for new laws (called bills) need to be written down and then put into the Bill Box.*

*The president will facilitate honest and respectful discussions.*

*Bills will be shared during congress meetings. The legislator(s) sponsoring the bill will have a chance to discuss their idea and answer questions.*

*Then the bill will be opened up for at least a 5 minute debate for all legislators to share their point of view.*

### *Voting on bills*

*The president will not participate in the voting.*

*The Vice President only can vote to break a tie in the Senate.*

*Representatives vote first with the Speaker of the House tallying the votes.*

*Senators vote next with the Vice President tallying the votes.*

*If it passes the House of Representatives **and** the Senate then the president will either veto or sign the bill into a law.*

*If a bill does not get a majority of "Yea" votes in the Senate **and/or** the House then the bill is called a "Dead Bill".*

*If the president vetoes a bill then the bill can be reintroduced. If 2/3 of the senate and 2/3 of the House of Representatives vote "Yea" then this will override the president, and the bill can become a law.*

## *Article II: Executive Branch*

*The president either can approve (sign into law) bills. Or veto (say no) to bills passed by the legislative branch.*

*The president is responsible for signing a bill so it can become a class law.*

*If the president vetoes a bill then it **does not** become law. The legislative branch can bring back any vetoed bill for a vote (see the last section of Article I)*

*This branch will be responsible for carrying out the laws. The president will put together a cabinet. The members of the Cabinet will be called Secretaries. The Cabinet helps the president with plans for making laws happen and how to enforce them.*



### ***Elections:***

*There will be elections for a new president of our class government every 4 weeks. The vote will be done by ballot.*

*Selection of candidates will be done through primaries within political parties. The parties are the "Reader Party", "Writer Party" and "Math Party". (Amendment sponsored by Senator Adam N., 2013)*

*A president can only be in office for two terms.*

*Each person will vote once and candidates can vote for themselves. (Amendment sponsored by Representative Katie H., 2007)*

*In the event of a tie for president, another vote will be taken by a raise of hands. Eyes will be closed for privacy and the current president will tally the votes. **Everyone will have a chance to vote again.** (Amendment sponsored by Representative Patrick B. and Senator Olivia M., 2007)*

### ***Article III:      Judicial Branch***

*This branch will be responsible for making sure laws are constitutional when there is a question or concern.*

*Justices make sure laws should be fair and do not contradict rules already established.*

*The Supreme Court Justices will make decisions based upon the Harriet Beecher Stowe School Handbook along with policies set by the School Board and the Department of Education.*

