

ROOM 15 CONSTITUTION

February 16, 2009

PREAMBLE: We, the students of Room 15, in order to form a more perfect classroom, establish fairness, insure peace and quiet, provide a safe environment, and promote learning, do ordain and establish this CONSTITUTION of Rm. 15.

Article I. GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

The system of government is to be modeled after that of the United States, which includes three branches consisting of the Judicial, the Congressional, and the Executive. All rules and regulations concerning the establishment of law will be given to these branches. The Executive Branch is the President. This job will be filled by the teacher or the substitute teacher in his absence. The Judicial is the Supreme Court. The school principal will serve as the Supreme Court Justice, while each student delegation will appoint one member to serve as Judge under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. The Congressional Branch includes the Senate and the House. Each state delegation will appoint one member to serve in the Senate and two members to serve in the House of Representative.

Article II. LAWS of the LAND

Nothing in this document, nor anything that goes on in Room 15, can be contrary to the laws, rules, and guidelines of the United States government, the State of Oregon, School District 6, or Central Point Elementary.

Article III. POWER of the PRESIDENT

The "president" will enforce all rules and determine appropriate consequences unless the Supreme Court decides otherwise. The Supreme Court will make its decisions based solely upon this document. When the president is absent, the substitute may elect to temporarily suspend amendments four through sixteen.

Article IV: COMPUTER USE

Up to three self-managers at a time have the right to go to the computer lab if their work is done. They may "go on" game sites as long as they don't go on gore/blood games. If a student misbehaves while in or on the way to the computer lab, he or she will lose his or her self-manager card.

Article V: ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students have the right to bring personal music players and/or personal video game players, other than laptop computers, to Room 15 for use in-class during recess, free time, and fitness, and on the bus during field trips. If a teacher can hear the music, the teacher has the right to confiscate the device. The offending student may claim it after school. It is assumed that parent has approved own child's music and video game selections. If it is determined that parent was unaware of student's music selections, the device is to be confiscated, turned over to parent, and banned from class for thirty (30) days.

Article VI: GUM

Students possessing a green or gold card have the right to chew gum only in Room 15 and provided gum stays in mouth at all times unless properly discarded in waste basket or returned to wrapper. Penalty for violating this rule is loss of privilege for one week and a card change. It is a violation to play with the gum in any way. If any gum wrappers are found on the floor, or any gum wads found anywhere, the entire class will lose their gum-chewing rights for one full week.

Article VII: RECESS

Students have the right to go to recess or PBS office at 10:45 and return between 11:00 and 11:05 a.m. of the same day. Students also have the right to return from lunch by 1:05 p.m. If the teacher violates these time guidelines, letters or tally marks must be added to the Friday Bonus Recess board at a rate of one (1) letter or tally mark per minute of violation. If a student leaves early or comes back late, one (1) letter or tally mark is taken away per minutes of violation. Students must complete all their work prior to going to recess.

Article VIII: FREE DRAWING

When done with work, students have the right to read, write, or draw. Drawings are required to be "appropriate." Students must provide their own paper and pencils or use paper from scratch paper bin. If a drawing is deemed inappropriate, student will receive a referral.

Article IX: CELL PHONES

Students have the right to carry cell phones provided they are on silent mode and kept in pocket at all times. If the phone rings, student must change his or her card. If ringtone is inappropriate, student must change his or her card twice. Students have the right to text during free time. Self-managers may make one emergency phone call per day for up to three (3) minutes in length and only during recess or free-time.

Article X: CLASSROOM PETS – AMENDED by the President

Students have the right to have a small classroom pet for up to one week at a time. *Determination as to which student may bring and care for the pet will be based upon an application process created by the President. Successful applicants will be required to bring the pet from home at the beginning of the week and take the pet home at the end of the week.* The pet must remain in its cage, and cleaning up after the pet is the responsibility of the person who brought it. The pet cannot be stinky, loud, or dangerous in any way: no biting, no poison, no other dangerous element. Harmful pets will be immediately sent to PBS until removed by a parent, and the student who brought it will be required to change his or her card. If someone volunteers a pet and supplies, class may elect to adopt it in lieu of Article X provided the volunteer completes an application process and the volunteer takes it home on vacations.

Article XI: JOB WHEEL – VETOED by the President – Job Wheel replaced by Checkbook Project

The Job Wheel is to be spun at the end of the day on Fridays. If it stops at the same place as the previous week, it must be spun again.

Article XII: RESTROOM USE

Students have the right to use the restroom during free time, Read, Write, or Draw time, and during work sessions provided it has been at least five minutes since the last recess and at least five (5) minutes until the next recess. A bathroom pass will not be required. Students have a maximum of three (3) minutes to complete their business in the restroom. Students violating this time provision will be subject to a card change or will lose five (5) minutes from their next recess.

Article XIII: NOISE LEVELS

Students have the right to talk at the designated noise level except when there is a speaker or during tests.

Article XIV: SNACKS

Students have the right to healthful snacks only: no chocolate donuts, no sugary stuff, no sprinkles, and only chips that don't have sugar. Students must pick-up trash and all crumbs or be subject to a card change, loss of privilege, and loss of recess.

Article XV: SCIENCE

Students have the right to do a science lesson at least once a week provided they do not talk or goof around. Students who have reached the orange level on the card chart will be excluded from participating.

Article XVI: FLIP-FLOPS

Students have the right to wear flip-flops to school if kept on their feet the entire day and provided the student brings an extra pair of shoes for Fitness, Physical Education, and Recess. The extra pair of shoes cannot be flip-flops. The penalty for violating this article will be a card change.

Article XVII: DRINKING FOUNTAIN

Students have the right to get a ten second drink up to three times per day, and self-managers have the right to an unlimited number of drinks, during free time, restroom breaks, and after completing assignments. Any student who touches the faucet with his or her lips, mouth, or tongue will be required to change his or her card.

Article XVIII: SHOW AND TELL and POKEMAN CARDS

Up to one (1) student per day will be allowed to "show and tell" an appropriate item for up to three (3) minutes between 2:15 to 2:25. Student may call on up to three (3) people for questions and comments. Students have the right to show (and trade) up to three (3) Pokeman cards per day, but only during free time and recesses. If in violation, cards will be confiscated by the teacher and retained for up to one month or until a parent comes to school to pick up the cards.

Article XIX: CUBBIES AND DESKS

Students have the right to have cubbies for backpacks and jackets, and desk drawers for school supplies. If a student's hands are in his or her drawer while the teacher is talking, he or she will be required to change his or her card and the drawer will be confiscated.

Article XX: HALL AND WORKROOM

Self-managers have the right to work in the hall and workroom during work sessions and free time provided he or she is working silently and no other class is using the workroom.

Article XXI: NICE TEACHER

Students have the right to be treated nicely by the teacher unless they are violating the classroom Constitution.

AGREED UPON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20__ by the CONGRESS OF ROOM 15:

APPROVED by the PRESIDENT this _____ Day of _____, 20 __, EXCEPTING THOSE DULY VETOED.