**Eden Middle and High School Mr. Feasley**

**Room 134 Participation in Government Fall, 2020**

**Email: afeasley@edencsd.org Phone: (716) 992-3600**

Welcome to Participation in Government! Participation in Government is a 20-week course for ½ a credit. Passing the class (average of at least 65%) is a requirement for graduation and **You MUST pass this class to graduate from high school!**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

The intent of this course is for students to:

\*Develop a better understanding of how local, state, federal governing organizations work

\*Examine the purpose of government and the role it plays in the lives of citizens

\*Understand how citizens directly and indirectly interact with government at all levels

\*Actively participate so students can become informed citizens in the US democracy

**MATERIAL COVERED**

I. Foundations of Government - Principles of Government, Constitution, Federalism

II. Federal Institutions of Government:

III. Political Parties, Elections, Campaigns, Voting behavior, Media, Interest Groups

IV.. Local and State Government

\*In addition, we will be examining various current events and social issues…

**Supplies**

Pencils

Black Sharpie with tip

Colored pencils and crayons

Dry erase markers

Loose-leaf paper

1 folder

1, three prong binder

Supply pouch

Glue sticks

Headphones/earbuds

**GRADING**

Grades will be determined by homework, participation, projects, quizzes, tests, and a final portfolio project.

More information is provided explaining these requirements on the classroom drive.

* Homework: 20%
* Projects: 25%
* Quizzes: 20%
* Essays: 25%
* Participation: 10%

For information regarding your portfolio project, pleases refer to the portfolio project. The project will be counted as your final exam and is required to pass this class.

**Grading Policy**

All assignments will follow the school policy regarding COVID-19. All assignments not handed in at their appropriated time will be marked as late, losing 10%. Each day late will take 10% off each day. After five days (including weekends and holidays) it will be a zero.

**CLASSROOM RULES**

I. **BE ON TIME FOR CLASS** – being on time means being in the room, in your seat, and ready to work when the bell rings. Please remain in your seat until the bell rings.

II**. RESPECT!** – treat your fellow students, teachers, and the classroom with respect. DO NOT: write on the desks, throw objects, put down fellow classmates, or use.

Inappropriate language. {Each and every student is entitled to his or her opinions and beliefs. You do not have to agree with another person’s point of view, but if you want your opinion to be respected, respect for others should be returned.}

III. **COME PREPARED TO CLASS** – you will need a 3- ring binder with paper and pen (black/blue), notebook, and Chromebook. Due to the Coronavirus, neither myself nor any of your classmates can provide you with materials. Show up to class prepared with the above listed supplies.

IV. **USE CLASS TIME WISELY** – please pay attention and make the most of what time we have each day – do your best to work with others so class is productive.

V**. NO EATING or DRINKING IN THE CLASSROOM!**

VI. **PLAGIARISM** -All assignments (in class or otherwise) are to be completed by you the student! Academic honesty is a serious concern. Plagiarism is the taking of ideas or writings from someone else and presenting them as one’s own without giving due credit. Plagiarism and cheating are violations of the student code of conduct. Any written assignment submitted by a student must be of original authorship. Representation of another's work as his/her own shall constitute plagiarism. Plagiarism is cheating and has academic consequences. A student who plagiarizes will receive a zero on the assignment, followed by a conference with the student, teacher and an administrator, during which disciplinary actions will be discussed.

VII. **IPODS/CELL PHONES/ PED’S** – **are NOT allowed for class unless directed. I will take your phones for the day if you are on them.**

VIII. You must adhere to the safety and healthy standard provided by the classroom and school district regarding the coronavirus. Masks must always be worn and social distance in the classroom. NO exceptions.

\*It will be to your benefit to remain up to date with current events. You will be looking for news articles on a regular basis so it is recommended you: **Read the news** regularly -Buffalo News, USA TODAY Search the Internet for quality news sources such as CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, British Broadcasting Company (BBC), and other legitimate sources of daily news events**. Watch the news** – local, national: PBS, NBC, ABC, CBS, CNN, MSNBC, or FOX Above anything and everything else, it is expected that you will conduct yourselves as respectable and mature young ladies and gentlemen.

**Book #:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT EXPECTATIONS**

• Once your child is set up for their Zoom meeting please allow them to attend the session by themselves without interruption, as would happen with a classroom session.

• Please try to have your child set up for the meeting in a space where there will be minimum disruptions. There should be no background noise.

•Please allow us to be the professionals we are and trust what we are doing

• Please do not use photography or any recording equipment (including Zoom recording) during the Zoom session.

•Please understand there will be moments in class that may seem awkward such as a discipline problem or a story or a joke being told - this is normal for us and trust us to make the right decisions in communication.

Please sign that you acknowledge these rules and that your child will participate in Zoom classes.

**Contract:**

I have read the above expectations and course overview and understand what is expected of me in Participation in Government for the school year.

**Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Please take this information home for your parent/guardian to read and sign. If they desire, they may make any additional comments on the back of this page. My phone # is 992-3600.

**Parent/Guardian Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Fall 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

If at any time during the school year you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 992-3600 or at e-mail address: afeasley@edencsd.org

If possible, please include an e-mail address where you can be contacted – it is usually much easier to keep in contact with parents via e-mail. I am only in my classroom for the afternoons and I may miss your call in the mornings. Please read over the course overview and expectations for Participation in Government. Your signature indicates that you have read and understand what is expected of your son/daughter this year. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Mr. Feasley