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REQUIREMENT FOUR(F): MODEL CONGRESS - MEDIA

4f

Standard C – Getting Involved

DUE DATE: Everyday

For this requirement, you will be a reporter and need to write a daily newspaper about the happenings in our Model Congress everyday (about 9 newspapers). You will be graded on two things: 1) Did you complete all newspapers on time? And 2) Are the newspapers accurate, informative, and creative?

Your Goal:

You must write, type, or you can use a publishing program (e.g., Microsoft Publisher, Pagemaker, etc.) to create a daily newspaper that is ready at the beginning of class every day of the model congress. Your newspaper must include at least three articles about different things happening in the class. You must come to the classroom before school each day, print out copies of the newspaper and distribute them to students at the beginning of class. Many times the teacher will need to add articles to the newspaper so check with him before you print out your paper.

Hints on Writing a Newspaper

1. **Take Good Notes** – try to get good quotes from the congress people and look for interesting stories.
2. **Know the Rules** – you are the fourth branch of government. If you see someone breaking the rules, report on it. You need to make sure that the representatives are doing their jobs legally.
3. **Follow the Money** – watch the lobbyists and who they are paying money to. Why are they choosing some people to pay money and not others?
4. **Write Short Stories** – keep your articles short and to the point. Don't take a lot of time telling stories. Make sure that you also get everyone's name correct.
5. **Lobbying Money** – your newspaper must have a section that records which lobbyists have given money to representatives. They must tell you when they gave it and how much they gave. They have 24 hours to report this to you. If they don't, they are breaking the law.