

Student Statesmanship Institute Onsite Program

Policies, Standards and Expectations

It is our desire to make this a profitable, life-changing and enjoyable experience for everyone involved. While we expect no problems from the students while they are with us, it is important to lay the foundation for expectations ahead of time so everyone is aware of policies and procedures. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Respect

"Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another, be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble." ~ **1 Peter 3:8**

The foundation for all behaviors at all times shall be respect. We ask that you take the time to go over these Policies, Standards and Expectations with your students prior to attending the On-Site Program to insure understanding and mutual agreement. It is our desire that each student has a teachable spirit and is willing to be cooperative, obedient, and respectful to any person in God-ordained authority. Remember that you are FIRST representing Jesus Christ, then your family, your school, as well as yourself.

Policies, Standards, and Expectations

A. In the classroom *"But all things should be done decently and in order"* ~ 1 Cor. 14:40

1. Students are to be respectful of their instructor and other authorities
 - a) Listen respectfully when instructor/authority is speaking
 - b) Raise hand before speaking out loud and wait for instructor to call on you
2. Students are to be respectful of their classmates
 - a) Respect each other's space
 - b) Speak respectfully to your classmates
 - c) No foul language or jokes, especially taking the Lord's name in vain

B. Outside the classroom

1. Respect the building and properties. These properties have been very graciously provided for our use and should be treated well.
2. Please stay in designated areas
3. Food and drink only in approved areas and NOT during class time. Everyone cleans up after himself or herself

C. Schedule

To be handed out the first day. Copies are available for parents.

D. Clothing

"Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers..."

I Peter 2:17

1. Students should wear neat, clean, and modest clothing at all times. Suggested attire would include:
 - a) Nice pants and shirts, skirts or dresses, shoes or sandals. Skirts and dresses must be longer than fingertip length when arms extended down your side, with no high slits. Shirts must not show the lower back, the front, or any of the midsection, including when leaning over or reaching ahead or forward. Guys, no low pants with the "layered look", with boxers showing.
 - b) You will be interacting with Community Leaders on the second morning for the Committee meeting, so business dress is appropriate.
 - c) Dress for the final Mock Legislative Session will be more formal, so dress in a nice suit, or pants and a dress shirt with a tie, dresses or skirts, nice shoes, etc.

E. Behavior

For children and teenagers, as well as adults, behavior is governed by a series of decisions. One decides to engage in proper or improper behavior. All decisions carry with them natural consequences.

"A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature... will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit... will reap eternal life."

Galatians 5:7-8

Thus, the first step in any disciplinary action is to make the student aware that every action is the result of a decision he/she has made and carries with it natural consequences. If the need to discipline a student arises, the chaperone/instructor will deal with that student individually. If needed, parents will be called to discuss the situation. It is our desire that the student and chaperone/instructor will resolve the matter between themselves.

We realize that good Biblical discipline involves two factors: clear standards and expectations, and consequences that are appropriate for the infraction.

F. What to Bring and NOT to Bring

Do Not Bring: Video or computer equipment, or electronic devices: such as games, iPods, or CD/DVD players. Cell phones will also not be allowed to be used during sessions.

Bring: Bible, pen or pencil, and extra note paper if desired.

Disclaimers

All students are assigned two bills to debate within their committee. They are assigned one bill to support and one bill to oppose. Students may be asked to take a position on a bill/issue that is not their own. This is the principal of debate - to know both sides of an issue in order to argue it more fully. Students are allowed to debate the issues from a variety of positions, and are not required to argue the "liberal" position.

The issues being debated are actual bills taken from the Michigan Legislature and include: Unmarried Adoption, Cell Phones, Bullying, Epi Pens, Bias Motivated Crimes, Motorcycle Helmets, Teen Drivers and Texting, and Wrongful Imprisonment.