

Mr. Rodefeld  
Room 22  
Irondale High School  
U.S. Government  
October 1st, 2018



**1st Hour 8:35 - 9:31**

**2nd Hour 9:37 - 10:33**

**3rd Hour 10:39 - 11:35**

**4th Hour 11:41 - 1:11**

**5th Hour 1:17 - 2:13**

**6th Hour 2:19 - 3:15**







Today in Class:  
(2.2) Independence

**Today's Homework:**

**None**





Tomorrow in Class  
Town Hall Meeting





# Review Origins of American Political Ideals

- The beginnings of the U.S. Constitution can be connected back to...
  - Enlightenment thinkers / philosophies
  - the experiences of the colonists
  - founding documents created

# British Colonial Policies

- “We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately.” Benjamin Franklin is said to have spoken these words on July 4, 1776, as he and the other members of the Second Continental Congress approved the Declaration of Independence.
- In these notes, we will follow the events that led to the momentous decision to break with Great Britain.
- We will also consider the new State governments that were established with the coming of independence.



# British Colonial Policies

## **Study Guide #4 - relationship between England/Colonists**

- England paid little attention to the American colonies until late in the colonial period.
- Colonists became used to a large measure of self-govt.
- During the 1760s, the British began to implement new policies in its North American colonies. Following the French and Indian War, England believed the colonies should help pay off the debt.
- Colonists take exception to policies / object to taxes

# British Colonial Policies

- Many colonists took exception to these new policies / taxes.
  - **Slogan: “No taxation without representation”**
    - Stating their resentment at being taxed with no voice in Parliament passing the policies.

## British Colonial Policies, 1761–1774

YEAR	ACT
1761	Writs of Assistance allowed British officials to search homes and businesses for smuggled goods.
1763	Proclamation of 1763 restricted white settlers from land west of Appalachian mountains and required a license for trade with Native Americans.
1764	Sugar Act required and heavily enforced taxes on sugar and other goods imported into America.
1765	Stamp Act taxed printed paper, including legal documents, newspapers, and playing cards.
1767	Townshend Acts taxed glass, lead, paint, paper, and tea.
1773	Tea Act manipulated the tax on tea to favor the East India Company, giving them a monopoly and undercutting local merchants.
1774	“Intolerable Acts,” so named by the colonists, included closing the port of Boston until colonists paid for the tea dumped during the Boston Tea Party, restricting town meetings in Massachusetts, and allowed for British soldiers to be housed in private homes.

# Speaking up for change

When Britain passed the Stamp Act of 1763, requiring a tax stamp on goods such as newspapers and playing cards, colonists met and wrote a formal protest to King George III.

Think about the motivation for the colonists' protest:

- Why do you think the colonists objected to this new tax?
- When your school changes the rules that you are accustomed to following, what can you do if you do not agree with their actions?





# Growing Colonial Unity

- Cartoons reflected popular opinions about growing tensions between Britain and its American colonies between 1754 and 1775.



# Growing Colonial Unity

- A decision to revolt was not one to be taken lightly—or alone. The colonies would need to learn to work together if they wanted to succeed.
- Before the 1770s (Revolutionary War), several attempts had been made to promote cooperation among the colonies.
  - Ex.
    - The Stamp Act Congress

# Growing Colonial Unity

- Parliament had passed a law requiring the use of tax stamps on all legal documents.
- **Stamp Act Congress (1765) was organized in protest**
  - Created a *Declaration of Rights and Grievances* and sent it to the King.
- **Significance of the Stamp Act Congress**
  - This marked the first time a group of colonies joined to oppose the British government.



# First Continental Congress

- In the spring of 1774, Parliament passed yet another set of laws, this time to punish the colonists for the troubles in Boston and elsewhere.
- The colonies met and debated plans for action (similar to the Stamp Act Congress)
- **Significance of the First Continental Congress**
  - Send a ***Declaration of Rights - protesting Britain's colonial policies.***
  - Urged the colonies to ***refuse all trade with Britain.***

# Second Continental Congress

- In 1775, the British government continued to refuse to compromise. Reacted to the Declaration of Rights with even stricter and more repressive measures.
- **Significance of the Second Continental Congress**
  - becomes the *nation's first national government* (until the Articles of Conf - 1781)
  - Created the *Declaration of Independence*
  - Fought a war, raised an army/navy (continental army), created a money system, made treaties.

# Declaration of Independence

- Video: [What you might not know about the D.O.I.](#)
  - Just over a year after the revolution began (1776)
- Heavily impacted by the political philosophy of John Locke ( natural rights, social contract, purpose of government)





# Outline of the Declaration of Independence

- Part 1 - purpose / reasons
- Part II - philosophy of government that justified the revolution
- Part III - list of grievances - identified the rights that had been deprived
- Part IV - conclusion - due to the logic shared in the document we therefore declare our independence

# Declaration of Independence

- A justification for the actions of the colonies
- **4 Revolutionary ideas**
  - People should rule instead of being ruled
  - Every person is important as an individual
  - Consent of the governed
  - People entitled to rights and government exists to protect them

# Declaration of Independence

- These ideas **create a new national identity** - why is this significant?
  - It united colonists behind a core set of beliefs and set the new nation apart from other countries throughout the world.

# First State Constitutions

- **5 Key Features of State Constitutions**

- **popular sovereignty** = people recognized as the source of authority
- **limited government**
- **civil rights and liberties**
- **separation of powers**
- **checks and balances**



# First State Constitutions

## STATE CONSTITUTIONS AND AMERICA'S FOUNDING DOCUMENTS

### FEATURES OF **STATE** CONSTITUTIONS

-  POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY
-  LIMITED GOVERNMENT
-  CIVIL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES
-  SEPARATION OF POWERS
-  CHECKS AND BALANCES

1776

### **DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**



"...all men are created equal, ... they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, ...among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

1781

### **ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION**



"Each state retains its sovereignty, freedom and independence, and every Power, Jurisdiction and right, which is not by this confederation expressly delegated to the United States..."

1788

### **U.S. CONSTITUTION**



"We the People of the United States...do ordain and establish this Constitution..."

# Conclusions / Takeaways

- Quick write and report out:
  - Summarize the key ideas of Independence leading to the formation of the American government