**SHARK TANK: BUREAUCRACIES!**

**Background:** *Shark Tank* is an unscripted series that features a panel of potential investors, called "sharks," that consider offers from aspiring entrepreneurs seeking investments for their business or product.

**Simulation:** We will be carrying out *a version* of the *Shark Tank* program in class using federal bureaucracies. You will have the chance to make a pitch as the head of your bureaucracy and convince Congress (the class) and the President (me) to prevent a proposed 25% budget cut.

**STAGE ONE:**

1. You (and a partner) will do research and then create a PowerPoint/visual presentation to accompany your oral presentation of your bureaucracy.
2. Essential Research Questions:
   * Introduce your bureaucracy, give a short history of it.
   * What does you bureaucracy do to help the American people? Give at least TWO specific/different, tangible benefits your bureaucracy provides for the public.
   * Explain your iron triangle or issue network.
   * What is your current funding, and what might happen if you had a 25% budget cut? You might add how many employees your bureaucracy has.

**STAGE TWO:**

1. Create a persuasive PowerPoint presentation. This must include the answers to all the questions above (NO WIKIPEDIA) and have colorful and relevant images (34 points: 6 for history/iron triangle, 20 for two examples of helping Americans, 8 for budget/what happens if there is a cut—and don’t just say you two examples will be hurt—in addition to that…).
2. Your presentation must be informative, accurate, well-organized, eye-catching, and easy to read and follow (5 points).
3. Direct quotations and budget numbers require a parenthetical citation (EPA.gov) You need a proper bibliography with your sources in Chicago format at the end of your presentation

(3 points).

1. You must persuade Congress from cutting your budget. Be sure to make eye contact with your audience, do not just read your slides aloud. Be prepared to answer tough but reasonable questions from your members of Congress. If there is more than one person in the group, the presentation needs to be divided appropriately (4 points).
2. Your presentation must be a minimum of 4 minutes long but no more than 5 minutes long. Time yourself before your presentation (4 points).

**STAGE THREE:**

1. In addition to presenting as head of an agency, you will also be a member of Congress and vote on the other presentations made by bureaucrats.

After the pitches, The President and fellow members of Congress can only protect ONE budget. We will then tally the votes and announce the winner (you cannot vote for your own bureaucracy). (Credit: Credit Ms. Ellen Midden Mrs. Vianney and AP teachers I got this from)

**Rubric for Shark Tank Bureaucracy**

**Name (s)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and bureaucracy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. Create a persuasive PowerPoint presentation. This must include the answers to all the questions (which should come from scholarly sources (NO WIKIEPDIA) and have colorful and relevant images (total 50X2)=100 points—counts as a project grade)

1. Short history and iron triangle/issue network (6 points)

2. Two specific examples of helping Americans (20 points)

a.

b.

3. Budget/what happens if there is a cut (8 points)

4. Presentation must be (total 5 points)

well-organized

eye-catching

easy to read and follow

5. You need a proper bibliography with any sources at the end of your presentation (3 points)

6. You must persuade Congress from cutting your budget. Be sure to make eye contact with your audience, do not overly rely on notes or just read your slides aloud. Be prepared to answer tough but reasonable questions from your members of Congress. (4 points)

8. Your presentation must be a minimum of 4 minutes long but no more than 5 minutes long. Time yourself before your presentation (4 points)