**First Party Caucus**

Party Name (circle one): Republican Democratic

**Elect Party Leadership**

1. Choose party leaders. If you are in the majority party, you need to choose a Speaker of the House candidate, a majority leader, and a whip. If you are in the minority, choose a minority leader (this person will also be the losing candidate for the Speakership) and a whip. Use the traditional method for electing a speaker for all positions:
   1. From LegSim: “The Speaker serves at the majority's discretion and is elected in the first days of the session. In Congress, the Speaker is formally chosen on the first day of the Congress. Informally, the decision is made in the majority party caucus, using a secret 'successive elimination' ballot. An initial vote is held among all of the nominated candidates. The candidate that receives the fewest votes is eliminated, and a second vote is held. This process continues until only one candidate is standing. Although time consuming, this process ensures that the winning candidate receives a majority (and also poses interesting strategic opportunities you might want to consider!). The party caucuses then vote as blocs for their preferred candidates during the formal decision.”
   2. Speaker Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   3. Majority/Minority Leader: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   4. Whip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Committees**

1. Majority Party and Minority Leadership: Decide how many seats will be on each committee. Take into consideration both that the majority party wants a majority on every committee, and that some committees have more demand than others (see the spreadsheet). **Everyone will be on one “A” committee, and one “B” committee**. The rest of the Minority Party: Wait to see what the majority and your leaders decide.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Period 2** |  | **Period 6/7** |
| **"A" Committees** |  | **"A" Committees** |
| Foreign Affairs / |  | Ways and Means / |
| Natural Resources / |  | Foreign Affairs / |
| Ways and Means / |  | Energy and Commerce / |
| Transportation and Inf. / |  | Education and Labor / |
| Totals: 6 GOP/15 Dems |  | Totals: 5 GOP/ 12 Dems |
| **"B" Committees** |  | **"B" Committees** |
| Homeland Security / |  | Science and Technology / |
| Science and Tech. / |  | Homeland Security / |
| Education and Labor / |  | Transportation and Infrastructure / |
| Energy and Commerce / |  | Natural Resources / |
| Totals: 6 GOP/15 Dems |  | Totals: 5 GOP/ 12 Dems |

**—OVER—**

1. Once the Majority sets committee numbers, assign members to committees and choose who your party’s leader on that committee will be. The party leadership gets final say (but don’t alienate your fellow party members!). Write member’s names in the boxes below, and circle your committee leader’s name.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Period 2** |  | **Period 6/7** |
| **"A" Committees** |  | **"A" Committees** |
| Foreign Affairs |  | Ways and Means |
| Natural Resources |  | Foreign Affairs |
| Ways and Means |  | Energy and Commerce |
| Transportation and Inf. |  | Education and Labor |
| Totals: 6 GOP/15 Dems |  | Totals: 5 GOP/ 12 Dems |
| **"B" Committees** |  | **"B" Committees** |
| Homeland Security |  | Science and Technology |
| Science and Tech. |  | Homeland Security |
| Education and Labor |  | Transportation and Infrastructure |
| Energy and Commerce |  | Natural Resources |
| Totals: 6 GOP/15 Dems |  | Totals: 5 GOP/ 12 Dems |

1. Give this sheet to Mr. Wilbur. Yay!