

**Aisha Maxwell**

***Assistant Principal***

**Adam Sikes**

***Assistant Principal***

**Erica Armstrong**

***Assistant Principal***

***Horn Lake Middle School***

**6125 Hurt Road Horn Lake, MS 38637**

**Phone 662-393-7443 Fax 662-342-5039**

**Home of the Eagles!**

**Nick Toungett**

***Principal***

***Assistant Principal***

**YOU KEEP THIS LETTER**

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**2016 - 2017 Youth & Government**

**Introduction Letter**

We appreciate your interest in Y&G. So what is Youth & Government you might ask? The Youth & Government program is a simulation of how real government works. You will conduct research on the topics that you will discuss and debate, learn the rules of a chamber, work on your public speaking skills and apply this acquired knowledge and skills at the county and state conference, known as the Youth Legislature. In short, we have a lot of fun and learn life long lessons while we are doing it!

So what exactly do we do? Below are the major events of our Youth & Government club.

* **Desoto County Youth Assembly** - In December, we will attend the Desoto County Youth Assembly for a mock legislative session. This is an all-day field trip where students debate the bills they have written. Bills that are passed actually make it to the governor’s desk!
  + You will be expected research, prepare, and draft bills outside of school.
  + You will be expected to follow dress code for all Youth Assembly Conferences.
  + You will be expected to argue and debate just like a real legislator to get your bill passed
    - Do not worry about any of this, it’s easy and Mr. Clark will help you every step of the way!
* **Washington D.C. Trip** – The student’s favorite part. At the end of March, we charter a bus to explore Washington D.C. The 5 day trip allows students to visit our Mount Vernon, museums, and the White House just to name a few places.

* **Awards Banquet** – At the end of the year, students are invited to an awards banquet to celebrate the outstanding delegates.

**Below are the steps to join the Youth & Government club:**

* Have your parents sign and return the application form on the next page to Mr. Clark by Friday, August 19th. This is required to be eligible for consideration! Y&G members are leaders, as such you are expected to take care of paperwork!
* Give the two recommendation forms to two of your teachers (history, math, science, English). Each student must be recommended by 2 of their current teachers, we will take a maximum of 50 students into this year’s club. Students will be chosen based on teacher recommendations, grades, behavior, etc.
* Students accepted will be posted on the Y&G website by Monday, August 22.
* Attend Introduction meeting on Wednesday, August 24th after school in Mr. Clark’s room (236) from 3 till 3:45.



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**2016 - 2017 Youth & Government**

**Introduction Letter**

Below is a list of expectations. Failure to meet these expectations will result in you not being able to participate in Conferences or trips to Washington D.C.

**Expectations:**

* You will be expected to participate in all Y&G meetings. Meetings will be in Mr. Clark's (236) room. An announcement will be made and I will send you a reminder on Remind. To sign up for remind, text **@youthngov** to **81010**. These meetings will last from 3.00 to 4:00 and you must have a ride here to pick you up on time.
* You are a leader! You will be expected to conduct yourself appropriately at all times. Failure to follow rules at school, meetings, or Youth Assemblies will not be tolerated and can result in your dismissal from participating in Y&G.
* You will be expected to maintain a “C” average in all your classes. This is not optional, I can’t justify taking you on a five day field trip to Washington D.C. if you are failing your classes.
* You will be expected to **participate in all fund raising opportunities**. Youth Assembly Conference and trips cost money for registration, travel, lodging, etc. The fundraisers are helping to **lower YOUR cost!**

**Financial obligations:**

* The total cost of the **Y&G program is $30 dollars**.
  + The Desoto Youth Assembly trip is $25 dollars. A Chick-Fil-A or Zaxby boxed lunch is also covered in this cost.
* Students may also sign up for the Washington D.C. trip. The total cost of this trip is $625 dollars. (This covers pretty much everything they need for the 5 day trip to Washington).
  + There will be **fundraising** opportunities throughout the year to help offset the cost of the Washington D.C. trip. Each student will be notified of how much money was raised for their individual portion before final payment.
  + You are responsible for making your payments on time. Understand that all **PAYMENTS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE**. To ease the financial cost, a payment schedule has been established:
    - 1ST payment of $200 dollars is due by **September 30th**
    - 2nd payment of $200 dollars due by **November 30th**
    - 3rd payment of $225 – fundraising is due by **January 29th**

**This is for your records, DO NOT RETURN!**



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**TURN IN APPLICATION TO**

**MR. CLARK (ROOM 236)**

**By Friday AUGUST 19, 2016**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2016 - 2017 Youth & Government**

**Application Form**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, would like to be considered for the 2016 and 2017 Y&G club. I have read over the expectations with my parents and agree to adhere to the guidelines below.

**Expectations:**

* I will participate in all Y&G meetings. I understand meetings will be in Mr. Clark's (236) room or the computer lab. Meetings will be announced, posted on the website, and a remind message will be sent.
* I will represent HLMS as a leader and conduct myself appropriately at all times. I understand failure to follow rules at school, meetings, or Youth Assemblies will not be tolerated and can result in your dismissal from Y&G.
* I will maintain a “C” average in all my classes. I understand that a grade below a “C” will result in academic probation with the expectation I improve my score or face dismissal.
* I understand I will be expected to participate in fund raising opportunities.

**Financial obligations: ALL PAYMENTS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE!!!!!**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_I understand the total cost of the **Y&G program is $30 dollars** and have attached my child’s payment to this form.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_I am **not** interested in my child attending the **Washington D.C. Trip.**

Choose

one

* \_\_\_\_\_\_I would **also** like my child to go on the **Washington D.C. Trip.** I agree to make my child’s payments of said cost by the dates on the payment plan below. I know my child is expected to meet the requirements above and **participate in fundraising** opportunities to help reduce the cost of my child’s trip.
  + 1st payment of $200 dollars due by **September 30th**
  + 2nd payment of $200 dollars due by **November 30th**
  + 3rd payment of $250 dollars – fundraising is due by **January 29th**

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Participation in Youth in Government is completely voluntary and is an extracurricular activity. Mr. Clark reserves the right to **not** allow students to participate in assemblies as well as **dismissal** from Y&G if these expectations are not met.

Student (Print Name) Date Parent Signature Date



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GIVE TO A CURRENT TEACHER

(Math, Science, History, ELA)

***DO NOT GIVE BACK TO STUDENT!***

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2016 - 2017 Youth & Government**

**Teacher Recommendation Form**

**Directions:** Please complete the form below and return to Mr. Clark by 8/19/2016. You can place it in **my box**. Please **DO NOT** give this form to the student. Your **HONEST** evaluation of each student is very vital to a fair and unbiased decision about each student’s eligibility to join Y&G. This form will be kept **confidential**.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Course:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

On a scale of 1 to 5 (1 being poor and 5 being excellent), please rate the student on these qualities:

1. Ability to work well with and motivate others: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Dependability: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Leadership: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Trustworthiness: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Work ethic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**BOTTOM LINE:** If you were in my shoes, would **YOU** want to take this child 900 miles from home, trust them to pair up into student groups to see attractions, spend 5 nights in a hotel room, and conduct themselves appropriately at all times?

YES OR NO

Why or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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