

#9 - IN ENGLISH CLASS October 10, 2018

A TEENAGE DECLARATION

BY THE TEENAGERS OF SPRING VALLEY HIGH
SCHOOL

We, the teenagers of Spring Valley High School are outraged by so many rules and laws that hold us back from what we want to do that I have written this document to get the notice out there that we are not here to be pushed around by rules that are different for adults. Are we here just to follow your rules and not be individuals?

I first believe that we should not have to pay for school lunches, if the school system is forcing us to be here we should be able to eat for free, it's like charging a repairman to come into your home to fix something that needs to be fixed.

Next I believe that we should not have to have such long school days, we are here for 9 hours out of the day making a 45 hour week, most adults don't even work that long in a week, the mood in most schools would improve if we went to school for 4 days then had a 3 day weekend every week.

Next I do not like how the school day starts so early in the morning, All of the schools that I've seen in Minnesota have started at 9 in the morning not 8 in the morning It's not right that we have to get up so early. I feel like starting even just 20 minutes later would improve mood in the school.

I do not like that we have to have such an early curfew, Next I feel like a curfew should be something set by parents not set by a law, if some of us have to go to work and we don't get back until late at night, we are worked like dogs and we don't even get a chance to hang out with our friends after a long day at work, this would work well with a later starting time as well.

Next I do not like how teenagers can only work 25 hours a week at most jobs, we should be able to work up to 40 hours at least, some of us are saving for something rather expensive and we have to work for twice as long because we can't work as many days. I don't think we should have homework, we are forced to come to school, pay for our food at school, and then bring homework home from school,

Next I feel like homework should be optional, not just 'you don't have to bring it home if you complete it at school' but completely optional. If we cut down on homework we would probably have an all around happier and higher grade school.

I don't feel like we should have speed limits, I feel like if you have to get somewhere very quickly you should be able to get there as fast as possible, I understand that they are to keep people safe but they make fast cars for a reason and that reason is to get to where you need to be fast.

I do not feel like we should have to have required classes, I understand we have to get a certain amount of credits to graduate but we should be able to choose when we want to take the classes to get those credits. We already have to get these credits to graduate why do we not have a choice as to when we take them?

I finally believe that they do not give us enough time to read during school, they have classes to get us to read and then when we reach the age that we enjoy reading we aren't supposed to read, It's absurd. We are like slaves, forced here just to follow ones bidding.

For these reasons I have chosen to make this document to claim my independence from long days at school and long days at work with these grievances. To show that, we are not kids. We are not slaves. We are not here just to follow rules.