THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

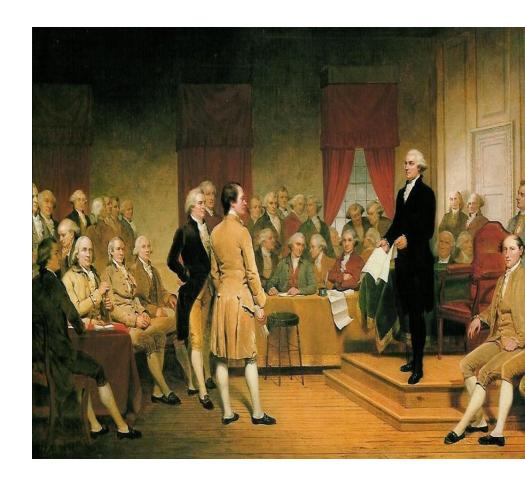
The leaders who created the United States' government.

The States are Out Let's offecapiontrol!

- The Articles of Confederation were WEAK!
- States began fighting with one another!
- States began printing their own money!
- States began increasing taxes on their citizens, especially Massachusetts.
- Farmers began losing their farms!
- An economic depression hit!
- Shays' Rebellion became the "wake up call" for the country to fix the broken government!

Constitutional Convention

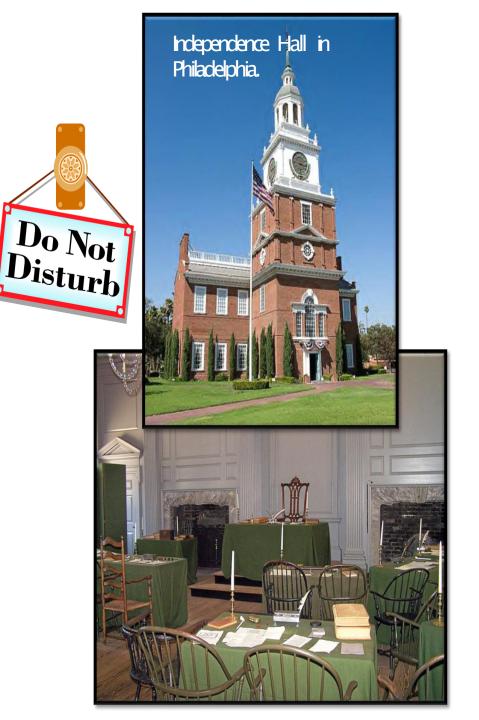
- After Shays' Rebellion, Congress decided that they need a <u>stronger</u> central government.
- In May 1787, representatives from the states met in
 Philadelphia to revise the Articles of
 Confederation.
- The representatives quickly agreed to throw out the Articles of



convention began, the delegates decided to keep their talks secret.

Why do you think they wanted their talks secret?

- Guards stood at the door to keep the secrecy, and the <u>windows were left</u> <u>closed</u> to keep passersby from overhearing the debate.
- With the summer heat, the closed



The Convention officially began two weeks late on Friday, May 25, 1787, with a quorum of seven states.

During its hot, 4-month schedule of 6-hour meetings, six days a week, 13 of the 55 delegates withdrew for personal or policy reasons. The Convention rarely drew more than 30 to 35 delegates at a time.

The first day: George Washington, unanimously elected president of the Convention, took his presiding chair, saying...



Delegate from Virginia

sace Washingt

- Washington elected president of the Convention
- Spoke little, but commanded respect due to his experience
- Washington supported a new kind of government.

ames Madison

- James Madison was a delegate from Virginia
- Called the "Father of the Constitution"
- Author of the Virginia Plan which became the blueprint for the Constitution

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- Delegate from New York
- Wanted to replace the Articles of Confederation
- Supported a strong central government
- Wrote many of the Federalist Papers calling for a new gov't

enjamin Frank

- Delegate from Pennsylvania
- Ben Franklin was the oldest delegate at the Convention
- He argued for the abolition of slavery
- Supported a new government, but not happy with some parts of it