

Adopted November 2009

Rolla Middle School Student Forum By-Laws

I. ORGANIZATION

A. The RMS Student Form will be composed of 4 elected representatives from the 6th and 7th grade classes. The President will be elected from the current 6th grade class, the Vice President, Secretary, and Historian will be elected from either the current 5th or 6th grade class. They will be elected in a Student Body election held in the spring of the school year. Those elected will serve the following school year. Current 6th graders will be 7th grade and 5th graders will be 6th grade. No officers will be elected from the current 4th grade class.

B. Officers: Campaigns will run for a minimum of one week and a maximum of 3 weeks. Candidates will be voted on separately, but may campaign together if they so desire. Campaign guidelines will be distributed at the beginning of the campaign and those candidates who do not follow the campaign guidelines will be declared ineligible. An assembly will be held for the 2 voting classes where the candidates will present mandatory speeches. Voting will be conducted by the current Student Forum members following the speeches. The results will be tabulated by the county clerk. Results will be announced over the intercom.

C. Members: By the first Wednesday of September each homeroom class will have elected one representative and one alternate to serve as their Student Forum Representative for the School year. These students must be able to attend all after school meetings, be of good conduct, have prior parent approval and be willing to serve. The alternate will vote at the meetings only when the Rep. is absent from the meeting.

D. Meetings: Student Forum meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month that school is in session. The Forum meeting place will be announced. The full Forum will meet from 3:15 to 3:50pm to discuss the business meeting. Committee meetings will follow from 3:50 to 4:30. **All members** will be required to attend all meetings, and then they will be required to serve on committees. **Committees meet weekly after school from 3:15 to 4:30.** Alternates may attend meetings if they wish, even if their class rep is attending.

II. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

1. To promote high standards of conduct in leadership, honesty, loyalty and courtesy.
2. To promote cooperation, and to develop better school spirit.
3. To promote better communication for discharging activities and responsibilities.
4. To serve as a connection between the faculty, administration, and the student body.
5. To advise ways and means by which RMS may be made a better school.

III. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The executive committee will consist of the 4 officers of Student Forum and at least 2 sponsors. Some decisions will be made in executive sessions as deemed necessary by the sponsors.

Forum Sponsors reserve the right to determine if elected officers are fulfilling their obligations as Student Forum leaders. Sponsors will dismiss officers not fulfilling their required duties, and select replacement officers from the existing forum. Should a representative fill a vacant office, the alternate will then become the representative of that class.

IV. DUTIES / OBLIGATIONS:

1. Attendance: The student forum member OR officer will attend meetings of the full forum, of an assigned or selected committee, and any assigned duty. More than 2 absences from the above mentioned obligations will result in the representative being dismissed from Student Forum Services. Extenuating circumstances will be evaluated on an individual basis by the sponsors. Failure to meet a major responsibility may result in immediate dismissal from Student Forum. **Think ahead to activities you will be involved in during the fall and spring of next year. Consider if you will have the time to devote to being an active representative. Do not join if you will not have time to serve.**
2. **Officer Candidate or Class Representative:** Eligibility is determined by:
 - A. Must have and maintain all grades at C or above.
 - B. Must not have been dismissed from Student Forum last year.
 - C. Must maintain Behavior ratings with "S" or "O".
3. The representative will have the privilege of presenting and reporting any suggestion for the improvement of RMS to the Forum and back again to the class. Forum Sponsors reserve the right to determine dismissal and inappropriate conduct. The decision of the sponsors is final.
4. Leadership Role: The representative is responsible for discussing Student Forum business to the full extent and with the best interest of RMS in mind, to their respective class members. As chosen representatives, each student is expected to conduct themselves accordingly, abiding by ***all*** school and Forum Rules, and setting an example for the student body. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from Student Forum.
5. **Dismissal from service** may result from any one of the following:
 - A. Suspension from School (In-School, Out-of-School, Saturday School)
 - B. Violations resulting in more than 2 assignments of detention (including 7th grade (Loss of Privilege).
 - C. Failure to fulfill obligations of committee or duty.
 - D. Semester grade below a C for any class.
 - E. Behavior grade below an S for any class.
6. **Outstanding Student Forum Member Awards** will be presented at the Awards Ceremony based on the following criteria:
 - A. Active Service on committees and projects
 - B. Attendance at Student Forum Meetings
 - C. Attitude while serving on committees
 - D. Overall level of responsibility demonstrated (notifying alternate of absence so they can fill in, high rating from homeroom teacher about monthly report from Forum meetings, etc.)