

Ridgeview High School Constitution

We the students of Ridgeview High School, in order to create a unified educational community, maximize student involvement, promote individual responsibility and teach the fundamental lessons of life, do hereby establish this constitution in order to make this vision a reality.

Article I: General Information

Section 1: This organization of Students assembled shall henceforth be known as the Associated Student Body of Ridgeview High School, which may also be referred to in an informal manner as the ‘ASB.’

Section 2: The mascot of Ridgeview High School shall henceforth be known as the ‘Ridgeview Raven,’ which shall be presented in the school colors of black, purple, and silver.

Section 3: Henceforth, the ‘Student Handbook’ shall serve as the presiding regulations of the student body, as elaborated in this document.

Article II: Student Council Positions and Procedures

Section 1: The governing organization of Ridgeview High School shall be recognized as the Ridgeview Student Council, whose duties include those upon which are expressly stated in this document.

Section 2: The legislative power of the Student Council shall be delegated to ASB officers, and those of each graduating class.

Section 3: The executive power shall be invested in a respective President, regarding to the ASB as well as graduating classes. The President of each class shall be assisted in his or her duties by the Class Officers styled as such: Vice President, Treasurer, Publicity Manager, and Spirit Commissioner (Senior Class only). The Executive of the Student Council shall be styled as the ASB President.

Section 4: In the event of a President’s absence, resignation, or impeachment, the Vice President shall assume the duties of the President.

Section 5: In the event that a Class Officer has committed a scandalous or slanderous act that violates the rules laid out in the Student Handbook, the Student Council may vote to impeach them. If two-thirds of the Council votes “Yes”, the aforementioned Officer shall

be relieved of their duties and expelled from the Student Council.

Section 6: If a Student Council Member wishes to resign, they must submit a letter elaborating on this request. The ASB President and the Student Council Advisor will then accept the resignation. The Former Officer will be discharged from the Council. The student will be disqualified from running in any following elections for Student Council with certain exceptions. A leave of Absence may be permissible by the Student Council and the Council Advisor.

Article III: The Election Process and Qualifications for Student Council Officers

Section 1: The Student Council positions shall be elected the year previous to the one in which they hold office. Candidates shall be elected by the First-Past-the-Post system in the spring of each School Year.

Section 2: In order to run for Student Council, a Candidate must maintain an overall weighted 3.0 GPA, as well as continually represent their School in a civilized and respectable manner.

Article IV: Powers of the Officers

Section 1: The ASB President shall be the Executive power on the Student Council. He/She shall delegate the duties to the officers of the RVHS Student Council, with assistance from the Student Council Advisor. The ASB Officers will assist the ASB President with all duties. Any person wishing to seek this office must have been a member of the Student Council for at least one year prior and be a Senior during their year of office.

Clause 1: The Vice President of ASB must have also served on the Student Council for at least one year prior to the election and be a Senior during their year of office. The ASB VP will then act as an assistant to the ASB President.

Section 2: The President of each Graduating Class (i.e. Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior) shall be the executive authority of his or her respective class. They will be the tie-breaking vote in any Class Officer meetings. The President shall have veto power over Class Officer decisions, but this veto can be overturned by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote by the other Officers. Presidents must ensure that communication is taking place between his or her Supporting Officers.

Section 3: The Vice-President shall assume all duties of the Office of the President in the case of a Class President's absence, impeachment, or resignation. If the incumbent

President is only out for a trimester for another class, then the Vice-President shall be styled the "Acting President". As Acting President, they will be responsible for their respective class in the same manner as the President.

Section 4: The Treasurer is the Chief Financial Officer of each Graduating Class. They shall be responsible for all Student Council funds. When an event requiring the selling of tickets or any other item occurs, the Treasurers shall be responsible for the aforementioned selling. Treasurers shall make requests for Petty Cash from the Bookkeeper.

Section 5: The Spirit Commissioner(s) shall be responsible for creating pep wherever the need may arise. He/She shall also be responsible for planning Spirit Weeks and most assemblies for RVHS. The Commissioner(s) must also be the primary speaker during assemblies they have planned.

Section 6: The Secretary serves as the chief scribe for each class; they will record the transcripts of any meetings between Class Officers. The Secretary may read the minutes of the previous meeting if the President or any other Officer wishes. During planning meetings with the entire Leadership Class, a Secretary from one of the Classes will be given the task of recording whatever is spoken or written by any other officer.

Section 7: The Publicity Manager is delegated the task of creating advertisements and various other posters for any student or staff member who wishes for one to be made. A person must fill out a Poster Request form in order to obtain said poster. The Publicity Managers will be given use of a Publicity Room across from the Main Office.

Article V: Starting New School Clubs

Section 1: All clubs must fill out proper paperwork. They must be voted in as an official club through a 2/3-majority vote of the student council members. Preceding their approval, clubs must send their president to every student council meeting, the first Tuesday of every month.

Article VI: Constitutional Amendment Procedure

Section 1: By-laws will be reviewed annually in the spring of every year, and any Student Council member may bring up changes to the by-laws.

Section 2: For amendments to take effect, the by-laws in question must be approved by a majority vote in the Student Council.

Section 3: If changes to by-laws have an adverse effect on student learning, the student body, or the Leadership program, or the Activities Director may exercise the right to veto the amendment. When a veto is in effect, the Student Council can petition the Principal with the amendment in question.

Article VII: Elections into Student Government

Section 1: While running for and participating in the student government of RVHS, you are experiencing a privilege not a right.

Section 2: The student body shall elect all positions in this government system.

Section 3: If seeking an RVHS government position, one must complete and turn in an application on the given deadline. All incomplete or late applications will be discarded.

A. Election breakdown is as follows:

- a. 25% weight for candidate interview
- b. 25% weight for completed packet
- c. 25% weight for student body vote
- d. 25% weight teacher evaluations

Section 4: Students, who are seeking an office, must follow specific guidelines in regards to Campaign promotional material. Below are details stating campaign guidelines:

- a. Each candidate will be allowed a maximum of 5 posters no larger than poster board size.
- b. Each candidate will be allowed a maximum of 25 flyers no larger than 8 ½ x 11.
- c. When running, you cannot take down or cover up another candidate's posters.
- d. Campaign materials must be school appropriate. Items found to be offensive, or against school policy will be removed. Candidates who use offensive material for the promotion of their campaign may be removed from the ballot.
- e. Mudslinging is not permitted during the campaign.

Section 5: If you are currently serving in an office, you may not campaign for another person. It is your duty to remain neutral, supporting all candidates in the public. You may exercise your preference when you vote.

Section 6: Campaigning is a free for all. You may hand out candy and campaign materials as you see fit to support your campaign.

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