

Chapter By-Laws
of the
Ropes Chapter
Charter Number 416
of the
Ropes Elementary Honor Society (REHS)
Adopted: December 8, 2008

ARTICLE 1: NAME

The name of this chapter shall be the Ropes Chapter of the Ropes Elementary Honor Society (NEHS) of Ropes Elementary School. (**Amended name 2016**)

ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE

The purpose of this chapter shall be to recognize students for their outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated personal responsibility, to provide meaningful service to the school and community, and to develop essential leadership skills within the students of Ropes Elementary.

ARTICLE 3: POWERS

- Section 1: The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.
- Section 2: Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.
- Section 3: Non-discrimination. Our chapter of REHS maintains policies and practices that are designed to prevent discrimination against any qualified candidate or member on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, and disability. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all activities and practices, including the chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members.

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION

- Section 1: Membership in this chapter is an honor bestowed upon deserving students by the faculty and shall be based on the criteria of Scholarship and Responsibility.
- Section 2: Membership in this chapter shall be known as active, honorary, and graduate. Active members become graduate members upon completion of their elementary school

studies at this school. Graduate and honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

- Section 3: Eligibility:
 - a. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be enrolled in grades 4 or 5.
 - b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been enrolled for a period equivalent to **one semester** at Ropes Elementary and be in good standing when it comes to attendance.
 - c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter (**Amended 2015**):
 - a. Will maintain a 90 average or higher in the core subject areas of Math, ELAR, Science, and Social Studies.
 - b. Will be on grade level.
 - c. Will earn an 80 or above in all core subject areas of Math, ELAR, Science, and Social Studies.
 - d. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and GPA standards, candidates shall then be considered based on their demonstrated personal responsibility presented on their candidate form.
 - e. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 90. (**Amended 2015**).
 - f. Grades will be rounded for determining eligibility. Given this development, any student with a cumulative grade point average between 89.5 - 90, will be rounded to a 90. Any grade below 89.5 will be considered as an 89. This includes 89.49 because 49 is closer to 0 than it is to 100 (**Amended 2015**).
 - g. If a member or candidate receives a 79 or lower in a core academic subject, this will be basis for probation and/or suspension of REHS (even if the cumulative grade point average is an 90 or above) (**Amended 2015**).
 - h. Candidates will return all membership forms (interest letter, candidate packet, etc.) within the time period set by the chapter adviser each year. The due dates will be listed on all forms. This demonstrates Responsibility on the part of the candidate. If packets are not returned by the listed due date, then membership will be revoked or denied. (**Amended 2018**)
- Section 4: The selection of members to this chapter shall be by the student meeting the guidelines set forth in Section 3a-g. The chapter adviser facilitates all meetings of the council that will consider inductees.
- Section 5: Prior to the final selection, the following shall occur:
 - a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
 - b. Students who are eligible scholastically (i.e., candidates) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the Candidate's Form for further consideration.
 - c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official evaluation form provided by the chapter adviser.

- d. The Faculty Council, with the guidance of the Chapter Adviser, shall review the Candidates' Forms and other relevant information to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership.
- Section 6: The selection of active members shall be held once a year during the second semester of the school year.
- Section 7: Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.
- Section 8: Transfer membership: Membership can be transferred from one chapter of NEHS to another.
 - a. An active member of the Ropes Elementary Honor Society who transfers from this school with an active chapter of NEHS will be given an official letter indicating the status of his/her membership.
 - b. An active member of the National Elementary Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter. The Faculty Council shall grant to the transferring member at least one semester to attain the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain his/her membership.

ARTICLE 5: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

- Section 1: Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the Ropes Elementary Honor Society.
- Section 2: Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$0.
- Section 3: Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS

- Section 1: The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.
- Section 2: Student officers shall be elected at the last meeting of each school year. All returning members are eligible to run for a position as an officer. (During the first year, officers will be selected in February.)
- Section 3: A majority vote shall be necessary to elect any officer of this chapter. If the first vote does not yield a majority, a second vote shall be taken of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.
- Section 4: It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings for this chapter with guidance from the adviser.

- Section 5: The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president and shall also keep a record of members' contributions in the areas of leadership and service.
- Section 6: The secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings and be responsible for all official correspondence of the chapter.
- Section 7: The treasurer shall keep the record of expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter
- Section 8: Officers shall serve a term of one year.
- Section 9: Officers and the faculty adviser shall collectively be known as the chapter's Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have general charge of the meetings and the business of the chapter, but any action by the Executive Committee is subject to the review of the chapter members.

ARTICLE 7: MEETINGS

- Section 1. Meetings of this chapter shall be held as determined or needed.
- Section 2. This chapter shall strive to conduct its meetings according to *Robert's Rules of Order*.

ARTICLE 8: ACTIVITIES

- Section 1: The chapter shall determine one or more service projects for each year.
- Section 2: All members of the chapter shall regularly participate in these projects.
- Section 3: These projects shall have the following characteristics: fulfill a need within the school or community, have the support of the administration and the faculty, be appropriate and educationally defensible, and be undertaken in a well-planned and organized manner.
- Section 4: The chapter shall publicize and promote its projects in a positive manner.

ARTICLE 9: DISCIPLINE of MEMBERS

- Section 1: Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship and responsibility may be considered for disciplinary actions by the Ropes chapter of the Ropes Elementary Honor Society. A member of the Ropes Elementary Honor Society is expected to maintain his/her academic standing, be responsible in all aspects, and take an active role in service and leadership to his/her school and community.
- Section 2: If a member's cumulative grade point average falls below the minimum of 90, he /she will be given a warning and a reasonable time period for improvement (one six weeks reporting period). If the cumulative grade point average remains below 90 at the end of the warning period (two six weeks in one academic year), the student will be subject to dismissal from the chapter for the remainder of the academic year (**amended 2014-2015**).
- Section 3: Violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member (see Section 5 below). These violations include, but are not limited to stealing, destruction of property, cheating, truancy, or other serious offenses defined in the Ropes School's student code of conduct.
- Section 4: Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive a written warning. A conference may be requested by either party (Faculty Council or student/parent). If the member is involved in additional violations of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal.
- Section 5: In all cases of pending dismissal:
 - The member will receive written notification from the advisor/principal indicating the reason for consideration of dismissal.
 - Members who resign or are dismissed can be reconsidered for membership upon written request to the chapter adviser.

ARTICLE 10: RATIFICATION, REVIEW, and AMENDMENTS.

- Section 1: Ratification: These bylaws will be approved upon receiving a majority affirmative vote of the Faculty Council (grade 4-5 teachers), and approval by the administration (Faculty Adviser and principal).
- Section 2: Review: These bylaws shall be reviewed and if necessary, revised within five years from the date of approval noted on this document.
- Section 3: Amendments: These by-laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the Faculty Council and Advisor, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given to members at least one month prior to the vote. The exceptions are any provisions regarding selection of members and chapter disciplinary guidelines, which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the principal.

- Date: December 8, 2008