

Teen Age Republicans  
2011-2012

### **What is the Teen Age Republicans?**

"The Teen Age Republicans (TARS) is a national, youth-led organization challenging teens to become involved in their local, state, and national political processes. TARS across the nation sway elections, gain first-hand knowledge of the political process, develop leadership skills, and perform community service acts in their communities. National TARS has clubs in all 50 states and the District of Columbia and members in the tens of thousands. Clubs are organized on and off campus into middle school, high school, homeschooled, county and city clubs. TARS are our nation's greatest hope for the future."

### **Why do we want to establish a TARS club at our school?**

There are countless reasons that we should start a TARS club at our school. The first is that there are not any groups like this available for students yet at our school. We would like to give students who are interested in politics an opportunity to do more. A student at Reeths-Puffer now that wants to get involved would have to make their own opportunities. Whereas, having a group would open students up to the same opportunities and then some. Students could have chances to meet with other teens from across the state or even across the country.

Students can learn a great deal from getting involved with the government at a younger age than 18. By educating voters before they turn 18, it makes it easier for them to take a position when they can actually vote. It also helps those who are already 18 know what and who they are voting for in elections. Even though it is a Republican group, not all republicans agree on the same ideas. It gives the student a chance to learn about different views from a more conservative view point.

Part of being in TARS would be to help with voter registration and different campaigns. Not only is this appreciated by candidates and citizens, it's also an amazing learning experience. Working with a campaign can greatly change a person's views about a candidate. Whether they get a chance to meet the candidate and learn more about their stance on issues or they may get to hear the opinions of different people in their community. Working with and meeting new people are also great ways to network. Networking is an important tool for students; it could help them in the future. Networking could even help a student land a job. TARS could open up so many new doors for Reeths-Puffer students.

### **How much would it cost us?**

Best part of being a member of TARS is that it's FREE!

### **More:**

- A TARS club at Reeths-Puffer would call for at least four members (Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary) and a staff person.
- The club would need some where to meet, possibly a classroom.

### **If we get Mr. Beckeman's permission our next step is...**

Our next step would be to put out announcements to see if we could gain interest before the end of the school year from juniors, sophomores, and freshman. Then we would hold a meeting to vote for next year's Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. The meeting would also establish a base group and see if students would like to be involved in summer activities. We would also discuss ways to recruit more members and adopt a constitution. Once we have all of this we could finally register with Michigan and National TARS.