

***NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY
SOUTHERN LOCAL CHAPTER
BY-LAWS***

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Name and Purpose

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the National Honor Society (NHS).

Section 2. The purpose of this organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools.

The Principal

Section 1. The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

Section 2. The principal shall annually appoint a member of the faculty as chapter adviser, who may serve consecutive terms. Co-advisers may be appointed where necessary.

Section 3. The principal shall annually approve a Faculty Council composed of five members of the school's faculty who may serve consecutive terms.

Section 4. The principal shall oversee, with the adviser, appeals in cases of nonselection of candidates, and the disciplining or dismissal of members.

The Chapter Adviser

Section 1. The chapter adviser shall be responsible for the direct, day-to-day supervision of the chapter and act as liaison between faculty, administration, students, and community.

Section 2. The chapter adviser shall maintain files on membership, chapter history, activities, and financial transactions.

Section 3. The chapter adviser shall regularly review each member for compliance with Society standards and obligations.

Section 4. The chapter adviser shall be an ex officio, nonvoting, sixth member of the Faculty Council and shall facilitate all meetings of the council.

Section 6. The chapter adviser shall be a member of the faculty, appointed annually by the principal, and may serve consecutive terms.

Faculty Council

Section 1. The Faculty Council shall consist of a minimum of five (5) voting faculty. The chapter adviser shall be an ex officio, non-voting, sixth member of the Faculty Council. No principal or assistant principal may be included on the Faculty Council.

Section 2. The term of the Faculty Council shall be one year. Members may serve consecutive terms.

Section 3. The Faculty Council shall meet at least once a year to review the procedures of the chapter, select members, and to consider nonselection, dismissal, other disciplinary actions, and warning cases.

Section 4. The Faculty Council will develop and revise, when necessary, all chapter procedures for selection, discipline, and dismissal of members, all of which must remain in compliance with this Constitution and NHS policies.

Membership

Section 1. Membership in the local chapter is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by a Faculty Council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

Section 2. Membership shall be known as active, honorary, and alumni. Active members shall become alumni members at graduation. Alumni members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 3. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony in the spring of the year.

Section 5. All students who are juniors or seniors with a GPA of 3.3 at the end of the first semester are eligible to apply for evaluation by the Faculty Council to be inducted in the National Honor Society.

Section 6. An NHS member who transfers to another school and brings a letter from the principal or chapter adviser to the new school adviser shall be accepted

automatically as a member in the new school's chapter. Transfer members must meet the new chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership.

Section 7. Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.

Selection of Members

Section 1. To be eligible for membership the candidate must be a member of the junior or senior class. (Freshmen and sophomores are not eligible.) Candidates must have been in attendance at the school the equivalent of one semester.

Section 2. The chapter minimum standard for scholarship shall be a cumulative scholastic grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.3 (on a 4.0 scale). Candidates shall then be evaluated on the basis of service, leadership, and character.

Section 3. The selection of each member to the chapter shall be by a vote of the Faculty Council. Prior to notification of any candidates, the chapter adviser shall review with the principal the results of the Faculty Council's deliberations.

Discipline and Dismissal

Section 1. The Faculty Council, in compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Honor Society, shall determine the procedure for dismissal. A written description of the dismissal procedure shall be available to interested parties.

Section 2. Members who fall below the standards that were the basis for their selection shall be promptly warned in writing by the chapter adviser and given a reasonable amount of time to correct the deficiency, except that in the case of flagrant violation of school rules or the law, a member does not have to be warned.

Section 3. The Faculty Council shall determine when an individual has exceeded a reasonable number of warnings.

Section 4. In all cases of pending dismissal, a member shall have a right to a hearing before the Faculty Council and/or the Principal and adviser. (Note: This hearing is required and is considered "due process" for all members.)

Section 5. If a member is dismissed, all privileges as a National Honor Society member are revoked.

Meetings

Section 1. Each chapter shall have regular meetings during the school year as deemed necessary.

Section 2. Members are required to attend, unless excused by the adviser.

Activities

Section 1. Each chapter shall determine one or more service projects for each year.

Section 2. All members 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; be well planned, organized, and executed.

Section 4. Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in an individual service project that reflects his or her particular talents and interests. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute.

Section 5. Each chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.