

By-Laws of the Dauphin County Technical School Chapter of the National Honor Society

Article I. Name and Purpose

Section 1. The name of this organization will be the Dauphin County Technical School Chapter of the National Honor Society.

Section 2. The purpose of this organization will be to promote scholarship, service, leadership, and character in the students of Dauphin County Technical School.

Section 3. This chapter will be under the sponsorship and supervision of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), 1904 Association Drive, Reston, VA 20191-1537.

Article II. The National Council

Section 1. The control of this organization shall be vested in the NASSP Board of Directors.

Section 2. There shall be a National Council to advise NASSP Board of Directors regarding NHS and its policies and procedures.

Section 3. A simple majority of members shall constitute a quorum of the National Council.

Article III. State Organizations

Section 1. Local chapters may choose to organize state associations.

Section 2. Any state association of National Honor Society chapters shall conform to this Constitution and shall work with NASSP in furthering the purposes of this organization.

Section 3. All state associations shall be affiliated with the National Honor Society.

Section 4. The state affiliate shall not serve as an appeal board for local chapter nonselection or dismissal cases.

Section 5. Bylaws of the state associations must be approved by NASSP and must be consistent with the NHS Constitution.

Article IV. Local Chapters

Section 1. Any secondary public school is eligible to apply for a charter for a local chapter.

Section 2. Each chapter will pay a chartering fee determined by the NASSP Board of Directors.

Section 3. Each school with a chapter shall pay an annual affiliation fee recommended by the National Council and approved by the NASSP Board of Directors.

Article V. The Principal

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

Section 2. The principal will annually appoint a chapter adviser, who may serve consecutive terms. Co-advisors may be appointed where necessary.

Section 3. The principal will be a part of the local school's approval process for nonselection or dismissal cases.

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

Article VI. The Chapter Adviser

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

Section 2. The chapter adviser will maintain files on membership, chapter history, activities, and financial transactions. The chapter advisor shall complete the annual survey and submit it to the national office.

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

Section 4. The chapter adviser will help the chapter officers understand and carry out their duties.

Section 5. 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 annual by the principal, and may serve consecutive terms.

Article VII. The Faculty Council

Section 1. The faculty council will consist of at least five voting faculty members, appointed annually by the principal. Three faculty members will be academic instructors and two will be CTE instructors. No principal or assistant principal may be included on the faculty council.

Section 2. The term of the faculty council will be one year. Members may be appointed to serve consecutive terms.

Section 3. The chapter adviser will be an ex-officio, nonvoting member of the faculty council.

Section 4. The faculty council will meet at least once a year to select National Honor Society members and to consider non-selection, warning cases and other disciplinary actions.

Article VIII. Membership

Section 1. Membership in a 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 will be known as active, honorary, and graduate. Active members will become graduate members upon graduation from high school. Graduate members will have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 3. The faculty council will reserve the right to award honorary membership to school officials, principals, teachers, National Honor Society advisers or adults in recognition of outstanding service rendered to the school in keeping with the purpose of the National Honor Society.

Section 4. Candidates become members at the Induction Ceremony, to be held annually.

Section 5. Members who are sophomores, juniors or seniors in good standing are eligible to be nominated by their chapter to compete in the National Honor Society Scholarship program.

Section 6. A National Honor Society member who transfers to another school and brings a letter from the former principal or chapter adviser to the new school adviser will automatically be accepted as a member in the new school's chapter. Transfer members must meet the new school'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.

Article IX. Selection of Members

Section 1. To be eligible for membership, the candidate must be a member of the sophomore, junior or senior class. Candidates must have been in attendance in the school the equivalent of one semester.

Section 2. Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 90%, or the equivalent standard of excellence. Candidates will also be evaluated on the basis of service, leadership, and character. Candidates are ineligible if they meet at least one of the following: two or more C's; one or more D's; one or more F's; two or more days of ISS during their school career; one or more days of OSS during their school career; numerous discipline referrals during their school career; and/or truancy during their school career.

Section 3. The selection of each member to the chapter will be by a majority vote of the faculty council.

Section 4. A description of the selection process will be made available upon request to any interested parties.

Section 5. The National Council of the NASSP will not review the judgement of the faculty council regarding selection of individual members to local chapters.

Article X. Discipline and Dismissal

Section 1. The procedure for dismissal will be determined by the faculty council in compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Honor Society.

Section 2. Members who fall below eligibility standards (at least a 90% GPA, discipline based on the discretion of the adviser and principal, attendance based on the discretion of the adviser and principal), which were the basis for their selection will be promptly warned by the chapter adviser and given a reasonable amount of time to correct the deficiency. In the case of a flagrant violation of school rules or civil laws a member does not necessarily have to be warned.

Section 3. The faculty council will determine when an individual has exceeded a reasonable number of warnings.

Section 4. In all cases of pending dismissal, a member has the right to a hearing before the faculty council.

Section 5. A member who has been dismissed may appeal the dismissal to the faculty council under the same rules for disciplinary appeals in the school.

Section 6. The National Council and the NASSP will hear no appeals in dismissal cases.

Article XI. Chapter Officers

Section 1. The officers of the chapter, their duties, and the method of their election will be determined by members of the chapter.

Section 2. A majority of votes cast will be necessary to elect any chapter officer.

Article XII. Executive Committee

Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of the officers of the chapter and the chapter advisor.

Section 2. The executive committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its business meetings, make recommendations to the chapter, and determine and perform such other duties as are specified in the chapter bylaws.

Section 3. The executive committee shall have the responsibility for ensuring that chapter activities and procedures follow school policy and regulations.

Article XIII. Meetings

Section 1. Each chapter will have regular meetings during the school year on designated days.

Section 2. Designated days and times will be utilized for meetings of the Dauphin County Technical School chapter of the National Honor Society.

Article XIV. Activities

Section 1. Each chapter will determine one or more service projects per 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.

Article XV. Official Insignia

Section 1. The organization will have an official emblem selected by the National Council; its distribution and rules for use will be under the control of the National Council.

Section 2. Any member who resigns or is dismissed will return the National Honor Society emblems to the chapter adviser.

Section 3. The official colors of the National Honor Society will be blue and gold.

Article XVI. Chapter Bylaws

Section 1. Each chapter shall write bylaws to amplify sections of the Official National Honor Society Constitution.

Section 2. The chapter bylaws shall contain information concerning the election and duties of officers, the schedule of meetings, member obligations, dues, and the like.

Article XVII. Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by the NASSP Board of Directors based on input from the NASSP staff and the National Honor Society National Council.