



Chapter Bylaws  
of the  
Riverhawk Chapter  
of the  
National Honor Society  
Adopted: May 25, 2021

**ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of this chapter shall be the Riverhawk Chapter of the National Honor Society of Easton Valley.

**ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

The purpose of this chapter shall be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and to encourage the development of character in students of Easton Valley.

**ARTICLE III: POWERS**

**Section 1.** This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the National Constitution of NHS. See [www.nhs.us/constitutions](http://www.nhs.us/constitutions). In addition, this chapter will maintain active affiliation with the national organization on an annual basis.

**Section 2.** This chapter will remain an active member of the state association, Riverhawk Chapter, by paying annual dues and participating in state functions when possible.

**Section 3.** The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

**Section 4.** Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.



**Section 5.** Nondiscrimination. The Easton Valley Community School District provides equal opportunity in programs provided to all students regardless of race, color, national origin, gender (sex), sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, socioeconomic status, disability, religion, or creed. Our chapter of NHS 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 practices, including the chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members.

#### **ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP**

**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, service, leadership, and character.

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

**Section 3.** Eligibility:

- a. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be members of the junior or senior class.
- 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 Easton Valley.
- c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale.)
- d. All students who are eligible scholastically must complete and submit the Petition to Join materials for further consideration by the deadline given to them in the eligibility email/letter.
- e. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and GPA standards, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character as detailed in their Invitation and Petition to Join materials.

**Section 4.** Members of the Faculty Council shall support the school leader in creating and sustaining a school environment in which each student is known, accepted and valued, trusted and respected, cared for and encouraged to be an active and responsible member of the school community.



**Section 5.** Members who are seniors in good standing are eligible to apply and compete in the National Honor Society Scholarship program.

**Section 6.** Members who are seniors in good standing are eligible to apply for the Riverhawk Chapter's scholarship opportunity.

**Section 7.** 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.

**Section 8.** Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.

## **ARTICLE V: SELECTION OF MEMBERS**

**Section 1.** The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the faculty council which consists of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be the sixth, nonvoting, *ex officio* member of the faculty council.

**Section 2.** The selection of active members shall be held once a year during the second semester of the school year.

**Section 3.** Prior to the final selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. All students who are eligible scholastically shall be notified in a meeting and written letter and must complete the Petition to Join materials explained in the Invitation to Join letter by the deadline given to them in the letter.
- c. Each candidate should seek an evaluation of their character and leadership from four different individuals, including a teacher, a coach/activity sponsor, a community member, and a fourth person of their choice. This evaluation is to be done in the company of the student being evaluated so that both a written evaluation and conversational evaluation takes place. The evaluator cannot be a relative of the student being evaluated.
- d. The faculty council shall review each candidate's Petition to Join materials, disciplinary record, and other relevant information to determine who fully meets the selection criteria for membership.



**Section 4.** Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony to be held during the school day in which students, teachers, and members of the public are invited to attend.

**Section 5.** An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given an official letter indicating the status of his/her membership.

**Section 6.** An active member of the National 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 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 VI: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS**

**Section 1.** Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$5. Dues will be payable to the chapter within 30 days of the start of the school year or within 30 days of induction.

**Section 2.** 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 National Honor Society.

**Section 3.** Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

**Section 4.** Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the **privilege** of wearing the satin stole adorned with the NHS emblem at graduation.

## **ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, and reporter.

**Section 2.** Student officers shall be elected during the school year, no later than mid-September. All returning members in good standing with the chapter are eligible to run for a position as an officer. Any active member can nominate an eligible member as a candidate for office.



**Section 3.** Voting shall be by secret ballot. 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 may be taken of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes. Two people may also serve as co-officers of a position if both agree to the decision.

**Section 4.** New officers shall be installed at a special ceremony held during a luncheon.

**Section 5.** It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings of the chapter, and serve as the official representative of the chapter at school and community functions.

**Section 6.** The vice president shall preside in the absence of the president and shall also keep a record of members' contributions to leadership and service.

**Section 7.** The secretary shall keep the minutes and attendance records for meetings and be responsible for all official correspondence.

**Section 8.** The reporter shall keep record of the chapter's events and be responsible for sharing chapter information with the district and community through the local newspaper, social media, and chapter website.

**Section 9.** Officers and the faculty adviser(s) shall collectively be known as the chapter's executive committee. The executive committee shall establish annual goals for the chapter and 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 VIII: EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**Section 1.** The executive committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its business meetings and make recommendations to the chapter. All actions and recommendations of the executive committee shall be subject to the review of the chapter membership.

**Section 2.** The executive committee shall have the responsibility for ensuring that chapter activities and procedures follow school policy and regulations.



## **ARTICLE IX: MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** Regular meetings of this chapter shall be monthly. Special meetings can be called by the president with approval of the adviser.

**Section 2.** Members are expected to attend all chapter meetings unless they have notified a member of the executive council in advance of their absence.

**Section 3.** Any member missing a second or subsequent meeting for an unexcused reason must meet with the executive council.

**Section 4.** Any member with multiple absences will be promptly warned by the chapter adviser and given a reasonable amount of time to correct this deficiency.

## **ARTICLE X: ACTIVITIES**

**Section 1.** The chapter shall determine a first semester and second semester service project 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; and be well planned, organized, and executed.

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

a. Each member should provide the executive council with a service project proposal within one month of the school year starting OR within one month of induction.

b. At the culmination of the individual service project, each member will present to an audience (which may include administration, student body, school board, and/or community members) about the impact of this project.



**Section 5.** The chapter shall publicize and promote its projects in a positive manner.

## **ARTICLE XI: CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP**

**Section 1.** Each year, the Riverhawk Chapter of the National Honor Society will award one or more scholarships.

**Section 2.** Each member of this chapter will determine by majority vote the number of chapter scholarships to be awarded and the monetary value each scholarship will award.

**Section 3.** Each member will assist in raising the funds necessary to fulfill the number of scholarships and monetary amount determined.

**Section 4.** Any senior member in good standing will be eligible to apply for the chapter scholarship(s). To be eligible for the scholarship, a senior member must

- a. Present their individual service project to the members of the Riverhawk Chapter of the National Honor Society in May.
- b. Submit their Individual Service Project (ISP) to the national student project database and receive approval of the submission by the deadline stated.
- c. Submit the completed Individual Service Project (ISP) form (Parts 2 & 3 completed) to the chapter adviser by the deadline stated.

**Section 5.** If required, all members not applying for the chapter scholarship will cast a vote by secret ballot and a majority vote will be used to determine which member(s) will receive a scholarship.

## **ARTICLE XII: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL of MEMBERS**

**Section 1.** Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, service, leadership, or character may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the Riverhawk chapter of the National Honor Society. A member of the National Honor Society is expected to maintain his/her academic standing 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 standard in effect when he/she was selected (3.25), he /she will receive a written warning and be given until the next grading period to make improvement. If the cumulative grade point average remains below standard at the end of the warning period the student will be



subject to further disciplinary action by the faculty council that includes consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

**Section 3.** Violations of the law will result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member (see Section 6 below). These violations include, but are not limited to DWI, stealing, destruction of property, cheating, truancy, or possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities or in the community. Any student considered for dismissal will receive a written warning and serve a 4-week (28 day) probation period, in which they must be present at all meetings but cannot represent the Riverhawk Chapter of the National Honor Society in any way, including the display of the NHS emblem or stole. If another violation occurs while a member is on probation, they will immediately be brought to the faculty council for dismissal from the chapter.

**Section 4.** Offenders of the school good conduct policy (such as failure to comply, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive written warning notification. A conference may be requested by either party (faculty council or student). If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal.

**Section 5.** Chapter officers, as representatives of the chapter, can be removed from their positions as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the faculty council.

**Section 6.** In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member and guardians/parents will receive **written notification** from the adviser/faculty council indicating the reason for consideration of dismissal.
- b. The **member** has the **right** to respond to the charge(s) against him/her at a **hearing** before the faculty council prior to any vote on dismissal (in accordance with due process identified in Article X of the National Constitution). The **member** has the opportunity to present his/her defense either in person or via a written statement presented in lieu of the face-to-face hearing. Guardians/Parents may attend a dismissal hearing in support of their student member but will not have the opportunity to respond to the Faculty Council. Following the hearing, the faculty council will then vote on whether to dismiss. A majority vote of the faculty council is needed to dismiss any member.
- c. The results of the faculty council vote will be presented to the principal for review, and then stated in a letter sent to the student and parents. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser.
- d. The faculty council's decision may be appealed by the **dismissed member** to the building principal and afterwards according to provisions of the school district discipline policies (for Easton Valley, this appeal would then be taken to the superintendent).





e. A member who is dismissed or resigns may never again be considered for membership in the National Honor Society.

**Section 7.** NASSP shall hear no appeals in dismissal cases. (Note: Refer to Article VIII, Section 7 regarding the permanent consequences for members when dismissed.)

**Section 8.** In lieu of dismissal, the faculty council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

### **ARTICLE XIII: RATIFICATION, APPROVAL, and REVIEW.**

**Section 1.** These bylaws will be **approved** upon receiving a two-thirds affirmative vote of all active members of the chapter, a majority affirmative vote of the faculty council, and approval by the administration.

**Section 2.** These bylaws shall be reviewed and if necessary, revised within five years from the date of approval noted on this document.

### **ARTICLE XIV: AMENDMENTS**

These bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the chapter, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given to members at least one month prior to the vote. The exceptions are Articles IV, V, and X, which are developed by the faculty council with the approval of the principal.



Approved on May 25, 2021: 2018: 1996

**Signatures**/Names of the Chapter President, Secretary, Adviser, and Principal.

Renee Hartung, Chapter President      Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Rissa Yaddof, Chapter Vice President      Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Dana Carlson, Chapter Secretary      Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Aleah Johnson, Chapter Reporter      Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Gabrielle Recker, Chapter Adviser      Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Tony Johnson, Chapter Principal      Signature: \_\_\_\_\_