

COMMERCE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Bylaws to the Constitution

ARTICLE IV
LOCAL CHAPTERS

Section 3. The Chapter dues for each member shall be \$2.00 to be paid prior to each member's induction.

ARTICLE IX
SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Sections 1-4. Following the close of the first semester of each school year a list of tenth and eleventh grade students meeting the 3.0 grade-point average required for consideration for membership shall be provided the sponsor of NHS by the principal. Each student listed shall be notified of his/her academic eligibility and be given a packet of membership requirements and the selection procedure. Each shall be asked to complete the survey (pages 40-42 of NHS Handbook) to determine interest in membership and for evaluation by the Faculty Council.

Following the given deadline for academically-eligible students to complete surveys, the Faculty Council shall meet to select new NHS members. Voting by the Faculty Council members shall be based on surveys, personal knowledge of student, information gathered from other faculty members, etc. Voting will be completed on each NHS candidate on the scale of 1-4 in the areas of Scholarship, Service, Leadership, Citizenship, and Character by each Faculty Council member. Voting shall be done anonymously; however, if any Faculty Council member votes a student a "1," he/she shall accompany this rating with three reasons for such a low marking. The teacher's name shall not accompany this statement.

Tabulation of the votes shall be completed by the NHS Sponsor with the Faculty Council members verifying accuracy. Any candidate receiving a 3.1 or above will be automatically accepted in the NHS.

Faculty Councils shall not retain their working papers after decisions are reached on selections. Only a summary sheet listing those students who were considered with total scores of all students shall be kept. In case of a protest, such a summary sheet can be reviewed by the principal, and the part showing a participant student's score can be shown to the parents in substantiation of the student's non-selection. Requests or demands that members of the Faculty Council should be present for interrogation on how each member evaluated the complaining student should be firmly but politely refused.

Information on NHS selections shall be given in the school newspaper and/or local newspaper prior to time of selection.

ARTICLE X
DISMISSAL

Section 2. A member in good standing is one who maintains the standards which were the basis for their selection:

1. Maintains a 3.0 cumulative grade-point average
2. Demonstrates good character at all times
3. Demonstrates good leadership qualities
4. Portrays good citizenship
5. Demonstrates service by accumulating at least 35 service points during the school year

A member is never AUTOMATICALLY dismissed for failing to maintain standards. Members should understand fully that they are liable for dismissal if they do not maintain the standards of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character. They are allowed limited warnings during their membership but that in a case of a flagrant violation of school rules or civil laws, a warning is not necessarily required. Furthermore, a student who is dismissed or who resigns may never again become an Honor Society member.

Faculty Councils should use dismissal sparingly. Other disciplinary measures are acceptable for minor offenses. The adviser may suspend certain chapter privileges, request that the student receive special counseling, etc. The goal of disciplinary measures should be to reeducate the student to more appropriate behavior.

Members who fall below the standards (listed above) shall be promptly warned in writing of the nature of the violation, the time period given for improvement, and the possible consequence of non-improvement by the sponsor. If the student does not make the improvement in the specified time, that student is liable for whatever disciplinary measures are considered appropriate by the Faculty Council.

If the Faculty Council decides that dismissal may be warranted, the member is allowed to present his/her case before the Faculty Council. If the Council determines that the facts warrant consideration of dismissal, the member should be notified in writing of the violation and the possibility of dismissal. The member should then be allowed to appear before the Faculty Council and explain the situation.

If the member is dismissed, written notice of the decision should be sent to the member, his/her parents, and the principal. The member must then surrender the NHS emblem and membership card to the chapter adviser. If the member is unwilling to do so, the matter should be treated as a school disciplinary matter.

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

ARTICLE XI
CHAPTER OFFICERS

Section 1. A President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian shall be elected by majority vote during the last regular meeting of the school year or the first meeting of the new school year. A member must apply in writing for these positions prior to the elections to be considered as a candidate.

All officers shall be outstanding, dependable, trustworthy, a role model for other students, etc.

General duties of officers shall be:

1. Assist in planning and organizing all chapter activities
2. Participate in all chapter activities
3. Work closely with advisor to ensure successful projects
4. Serve on Executive Board
5. Disseminate information to chapter members

The PRESIDENT shall:

1. Chair all meetings following Robert's Rules of Order
2. Serve as Master/Mistress of Ceremonies of all chapter activities

The VICE-PRESIDENT shall:

1. Serve in the role of president in his/her absence
2. Serve as chairperson of any committee elected or appointed

The SECRETARY shall:

1. Take minutes of all meetings of the chapter
2. Keep minutes on file
3. Keep attendance records
4. Accumulate and maintain file of each member's service points

The TREASURER shall:

1. Report expenses, income, and balance at each business meeting
2. Keep a record of each member's accumulated service points
3. Following each Executive Board meeting, notify each member of his/her approved and accumulated service points by letter and/or sign

The HISTORIAN shall:

1. Take pictures of all chapter activities
2. Clip and save NHS articles from newspapers
3. Keep a scrapbook of all NHS activities during the school year

ARTICLE XIII
MEETINGS

Section 2. Meetings shall be held monthly.

ARTICLE XIV
ACTIVITIES

Sections 1 & 3. The National Honor Society is a service-oriented organization. Projects that fulfill needs in the community or school and approved by the administration will be accomplished each school year. To ensure full participation of members in these projects, each NHS member shall be required to accumulate a minimum of thirty-five (35) service points per school year to remain in good standing in NHS. Thirty-one (31) of the thirty-five (35) points must be earned in NHS service projects. Four of the thirty-five (35) points must be earned in Church/Community projects.

Service points shall be awarded according to the following:

1 point for each \$20 of fund raising to a maximum of 10 points

1 point for each 30 minutes of work on NHS activities

1 point for each hour of attendance at NHS activities

1 point for each 30 minutes of service to Church/Community (4 points required in this area)

It is the responsibility of each member to complete an NHS Service Report for each project and present it to the NHS Secretary by the last school day of each month that service is rendered to Church/Community/School.

Approval of requested points shall be made by members of the NHS Executive Committee once a month.

Each member shall be notified of approved points and accumulated points following the meeting of the Executive Committee by letter and/or signs.

Section 2. Attendance is encouraged at all NHS activities. One (1) point will be awarded for each clock hour of attendance at meetings, activities, etc.

Section 4. Each member shall accumulate four (4) points (two hours of service) at a service project of his/her choice in a Church and/or Community activity which reflects his/her particular talents and interests.