**National Honor Society Constitution**

**Onaga Chapter Bylaws**

**Article I**

**Name and Purpose**

**Section 1.** The name of this chapter shall be the Onaga Chapter of the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools, which appears on the charter granted by the National Council of the National Honor Society, duly signed by the national secretary.

**Section 2.** The purpose of this chapter shall be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate the desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and to encourage the development of character in all students of Onaga High School.

**Article II**

**Selection of Members**

**Section 1.** Selection to this chapter shall be based upon scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

**Section 2**. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period equivalent to one semester in this school.

**Section 3.** Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be sophomores or juniors who have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above after the first semester of each school year. The scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum scholastic level of achievement for admission to candidacy.

**Section 4.** The candidate must fill out a Student Information Form outlining his or her leadership and service.

**Section 5.** Candidates submitting a Student Information Form for selection for the first time must have completed **at least 10 hours of service.** Those submitting for selection for the second time must have completed **at least fifteen hours of service.** Work performed during Community Service Day and in conjunction with other organizations the candidate is a part of, do not count towards those hours.

**Section 6.** All members of the faculty may evaluate the candidates for membership in the chapter to aid the Council in determining membership. These evaluations are confidential and shall be viewed only by the Faculty Council.

**Section 7.** The selection of the members to this chapter of the National Honor Society shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council, which consists of five faculty members appointed by the principal.

**Section 8**. At their discretion, the Faculty Council may bestow honorary membership on students with disabilities and foreign exchange students. Honorary members have no vote in chapter affairs.

**Section 9.** Candidates selected for active membership as well as those not selected for membership will be notified by mail.

**Section 10**. Membership does not officially begin until candidates are inducted at a special ceremony. At the induction ceremony, each member of this chapter shall be given a membership pen and card, and any other items selected by the Onaga chapter of NHS.

**Article III**

**Membership**

**Section 1.** Membership in this chapter shall be based upon scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Once selected, members have the expectation and responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

**Section 2**. Membership of this chapter shall be known as active and graduate. Active members become graduate members at graduation and have no vote.

**Section 3.** To maintain membership on a yearly basis, the active member must continue to maintain a level of excellence in scholarship, service, leadership, and character. If a member fails to meet the standards used as a basis for his or her selection to the Society, the Faculty Council will review his or her case and determine what action should be taken, which may include dismissal or other disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the Council.

**Section 4.** Any member who falls below the 3.5 cumulative grade point average shall be promptly warned. If, during the next regular marking period of the school, the member fails for meet the academic standards used as the basis for his or her selection to the Society, the Faculty Council will determine appropriate action.

**Section 5.** Each member is expected to participate in group service project(s) determined by the chapter. This service must reflect scholarship, leadership, and character.

**Section 6.** Each member is expected to perform **at least 10 hours of individual service each semester**. The quantity of hours can only be altered by the Faculty Council when they see fit. Members may vote to take suggestions to the council, however. The service completed must reflect scholarship, leadership, and character. The advisor will determine the type(s) of service that meet the requirements.

**Section 7.** If the service requirement is not met, the member will be warned and the Faculty Council will determine what action should be taken.

**Section 8.** An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from another school may request a letter indicating the status of his or her membership, signed by the principal.

**Section 9.** An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in the chapter. This transfer member will be allowed one semester to attain membership requirements of this chapter, after which the student must maintain the chapter requirements in order to maintain membership

**Section 10.** The activities of this chapter shall be subject to approval by the adviser and the principal.

**Article IV**

**Officers**

**Section 1.** The officers of this chapter shall include a president, vice-president, and secretary/treasure. Their duties, and the method of their election shall be determined by the advisor and, if needed, the Faculty Council.

**Section 2.** The officers of this chapter shall be elected at a meeting at the end of the school year or at the first meeting of the next school year. A majority of votes cast shall be necessary to elect any officer of this chapter.

**Section 3**. Only returning members of the chapter may run for office unless low membership count necessitates exceptions.

**Section 4.** It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings of this chapter. The vice president shall preside in the absence of the president

**Section 5.** The chapter secretary/treasure shall keep the minutes of the meetings, record all business, and submit a copy to the adviser.

**Section 6.** In the event that an officer does not fulfill the duties of the office to which elected, the officer will first be warned and reminded of the duties of said office, giving the officer time to correct the action. If he or she continues to disregard the duties of the office, the Faculty Council will determine appropriate action, which may include removal from office.

**Section 7.** In the event the office is vacated, the members of the chapter will vote to elect another member to the office.

**Section 8.** Any member on warning or on probation at the time of officer elections may not run for an elected office. The Faculty Council shall determine appropriate action should an already elected officer later be put on waring or probation.

**Section 9**. It should be understood and expected that the elected officers of the Society may be asked to carry out duties above those of the normal duties of a member

**Article V**

**Meetings**

**Section 1**. Meetings of this chapter shall be held during the school year on days and times designated by the adviser with input from the presiding officer.

**Section 2.** All meetings shall be held under the membership of the adviser.

**Section 3.** All members are required to attend meetings and be punctual. The adviser will determine if an absence or tardy is excused. If a member misses two consecutive meetings or is tardy for two consecutive meetings and those are unexcused, the sponsor will address the problem at a conference with the member. If the absenteeism continues, the Faculty Council will review that student’s membership and determine what action shall be taken.

**Article VI**

**Dismissal and Resignation**

**Section 1**. A member who falls below the standards which were the basis for his or her selection or who fails to meet the obligations of membership shall be promptly warned and given a reasonable amount of time - -determine by the Council - - to correct the deficiency. If a student fails to correct the deficiency, he or she will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council, which may include dismissal.

One exception to receiving a warning is flagrantly violating school rules or civil laws; in either of these situations, the Faculty Council is not required to provide a warning to the member and disciplinary actions will be determined by the Council.

**Section 2.** In all cases of impending dismissal, a member shall have a right to a hearing before the Faculty Council. After the hearing, the Council will vote on whether to dismiss or not dismiss. A member also has the right to appeal a decision under the same rules for disciplinary appeals in the school district.

**Section 3.** For purpose of dismissal, a majority vote of the Faculty Council is required.

**Section 4.** When a member is dismissed, he or she will be notified in writing and his or her emblem and membership card must be returned to the advisor. Parents will also be notified.

**Section 5.** When a member resigns, he or she must submit the resignation in writing, signed and dated, and return the emblem and membership card. The member’s parent or guardian must also sign the resignation letter.

**Section 6.** Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership.

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