

Deweyville High School Chapter  
Of the National Honor Society  
Chapter Bylaws  
Adopted 2014

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this chapter shall be the Deweyville High School Chapter of the National Honor Society.

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 Deweyville High School.

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

Section 3. Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal. [For reference, see Article V, Section 1 of the National Constitution.]

Section 4. Non-discrimination. 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 graduate. Active members become graduate members at graduation. Graduate 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 Deweyville High School.
- c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 4.5 on a weighted ranking scale. This standard is to be based on grades received solely in the standard curriculum, not on modified curriculum or remedial.
- d. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have been enrolled in at least one honors class the previous school year.
- e. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall be currently enrolled in at least two honors classes (or dual credit classes if all honors classes have been exhausted before the senior year) at the time of admission.
- f. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and GPA standards, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character.
- g. Invitation to membership will be extended during eleventh and twelfth grades.

## ARTICLE V: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council. The chapter adviser shall be a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Faculty Council.

Section 2. The selection of active members shall be held once a year during the first 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 (i.e., candidates) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the Candidate Form and essay for further consideration. Because it should not be necessary for students to apply for personal recognition and honor, possible candidates for membership are not permitted to submit application for membership.
- c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined scholastically eligible using the official evaluation form provided by the chapter adviser.
- d. The Faculty Council shall review the Candidate Forms, faculty evaluations, and other relevant information to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership. Student nomination of, voting for, or other participation in membership selection in any manner is not permitted.
- e. The prospective members shall be considered on their prior years of performance and up to the time of evaluation by the faculty council.
- f. The National Council and the NASSP shall not review the judgement of the faculty council regarding selection of individual members to local chapters.

Section 4. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony. Induction will be held once each year in the fall semester.

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: OBLIGATION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$20 dollars. [*Note: Dues cannot exceed \$20 per member per year as noted in the national constitution.*] Dues will be payable to the chapter by the deadline given by the adviser.

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

Section 4. Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the **privilege** of wearing the honor stole at graduation.

#### ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS

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

Section 2. Student officers shall be elected at the last meeting of each school year. All returning members in good standing with the chapter are eligible to run for secretary and treasurer. Only seniors may run for president and vice president. 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 shall be taken of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Section 4. 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 5. 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 6. The secretary shall keep the minutes and attendance records for meetings and be responsible for all official correspondence.

Section 7. The treasurer shall keep the record of business expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter.

Section 8. 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: MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings of this chapter shall be at least once every six weeks. Special meetings can be called by the president with approval of the adviser.

Section 2. Members are expected to attend all chapter meetings.

## ARTICLE IX: ACTIVITIES

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

Section 2. All members shall 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 individual service activities which reflect his or her particular talents and interests and as approved by the chapter adviser.

- a. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute.
- b. Each member shall participate in 15 hours of volunteer service each semester. Volunteer service hours shall not be transferred to another semester nor to another member.

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

## ARTICLE X: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL of MEMBERS

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the Deweyville High School 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. Because each notified candidate or active member should be familiar with regulations state in the Constitution and By Laws, ignorance or any regulation cannot be excused.

Section 2. If a member's cumulative grade point average falls below the standard in effect when he/she was selected (90%), he/she will be given a written warning and a reasonable time period for 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 or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member. 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. Deweyville National Honor Society members must abide by laws and regulations at school, school-related activities or anywhere in the community at all times.

Section 4. Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive written warning and notification. A conference may be requested by either party (Faculty Council or student/parent). If the member is involved in another violation of the school code of conduct, 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. Dismissal:

- a. The member 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. 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. Following the hearing, the Faculty Council will then vote on whether to dismiss. A majority vote of the Faculty Council is needed to dismiss a member.
- c. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser.
- d. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the building principal within two weeks of notification of dismissal.
- e. A member who is dismissed or resigns may never again be considered for membership in the National Honor Society.
- f. The adviser will have the authority to place a member on probation whenever there is a violation of a standard written in the Constitution.

Section 7. In lieu of dismissal, the Faculty Council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

## ARTICLE XI: RATIFICATION, APPROVAL, and REVIEW

Section 1. These bylaws will be approved upon receiving 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 XII: AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended by a 2/3rds 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 V and X, which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the principal (selection and discipline).

Revised October 2022  
Approved October 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter Adviser

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter Secretary