



National Honor Society Constitution Littleton High School Chapter

ARTICLE I: Name and purpose

Section 1.

The name of this organization shall be the National Honor Society (NHS), Littleton High School Chapter.

Section 2.

The purpose of this organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in all students of Littleton High School.

Section 3.

The NHS shall be under the sponsorship and supervision of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).

ARTICLE II: Election of Members

Section 1.

The election of members to this chapter of the National Honor Society shall be by a Faculty Council, consisting of five faculty members appointed by the principal.

Section 2.

To be eligible for election to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period equivalent to one (1) semester at this school. On the basis of the recommendation of the previous principal, the Faculty Council may waive the semester regulation.

Section 3.

Candidates eligible for election to this chapter must be rising members of the Senior or Junior class.

Section 4.

All candidates must have a minimum Grade Point Average of 3.8. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum level of academic achievement of candidacy. All students who can rise in scholarship to meet or exceed this standard may be admitted to candidacy for election to membership at the beginning of each school year.

Section 5.

All candidates must have completed their required school community service prior to application.

Section 6.

In addition to sections 4 and 5 a student must have demonstrated the following:

- a) Leadership:** All elected, appointed, or self-directed leadership positions held in school, community, and work activities in which the candidate is directly responsible for motivating his/her peers (age 13 or older) will be considered. Students must demonstrate leadership within the school community, as well as outside the school.
- b) Service:** Any service done for community or religious organizations may be considered, in addition to the completion of the required school service hours.
- c) Character:** The candidate should have displayed outstanding character traits such as honesty, integrity, respect for others, etc. (Any suspendable/disciplinary offense, infraction of school rules and/or improper conduct may be cause for rejection of a candidate.)

Section 7.

To be considered for membership, all eligible juniors and seniors must complete the Application for Admission, which includes an essay (explaining the reasons for becoming a member of NHS, as well as what they would bring to the organization). These must be completed by the date specified on the Application for Admission.

Section 8.

Any candidate who fails to be admitted to the chapter may appeal, in writing, to the advisor of the chapter within three (3) school days of receipt of notification of his/her rejection.

Section 9.

There will be one (1), spring election each year.

ARTICLE III: Membership/Responsibilities**Section 1.**

Membership in this chapter shall be based on scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities by:

a) Maintaining a 3.8 GPA for each term I, term II, semester I, term III, term IV, and year for each year the student is an active member. This will also ensure a student maintains a cumulative GPA of 3.8 or above.

b) Participating in at least four (4) NHS sponsored community service activities, one (1) as a committee member each year, totaling no less than 20 hours per year. Members are also expected to continue to pursue service opportunities not sponsored by NHS.

c) Continuing to participate in a leadership role.

d) Continuing to display outstanding character traits (see Article II Section 6c). Any suspendable/disciplinary offense, infraction of school rules and/or improper conduct may be cause for rejection and/or dismissal of a candidate upon review of the Faculty Council.

e) Participation in the National Honor Society is a privilege and not a right. However, no student may be excluded from consideration based on his/her disability, race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual preference, religion, or family status.

Section 2.

The annual dues for each member shall be \$10.00 (must not exceed \$20.00). The amount is subject to approval by the executive board.

Section 3.

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

Section 4.

An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school may be given a letter indicating the status of his/her membership signed by the principal or advisor.

Section 5.

An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to this school will automatically be accepted for membership in this chapter upon showing the principal of the school a letter indicating that his/her status was an active member at his/her prior school. A transfer must reach the membership requirements for this school within one (1) semester of arrival. A transfer must maintain the membership requirements for this chapter in order to retain his/her membership.

Section 6.

An active member of NHS who observes an infraction of the NHS constitution by another member during the school year should immediately discuss the infraction with the member and ask him/her to stop. If the member continues to violate the rules of the NHS Constitution then the advisor and /or a member of the Faculty Council should be notified within the next three (3) school days.

ARTICLE IV: Officers**Section 1.**

The officers of this chapter shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2.

A majority of votes shall be necessary to elect any officer of this chapter.

Section 3.

It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of the chapter, oversee selection of NHS projects, and fulfill all tasks designated by the advisor.

Section 4.

The Vice President shall record all service participation of the membership to be handed to the secretary, preside over the meetings in the absence of the President, assist the President in NHS tasks, and fulfill all tasks designated by the advisor.

Section 5.

The Secretary shall take the minutes of the meetings of the chapter, keep a record of all business, including attendance, hold all records on file, type up notices for meetings and projects, and fulfill all tasks designated by the advisor.

Section 6.

The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds of the chapter and keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements in accordance with school regulations (in order to receive reimbursement, all purchases must be pre-approved and original receipts must be submitted). All accounts of the Treasurer must be audited annually by the advisor and the secretary in charge of the student activity funds.

ARTICLE V: Executive Board**Section 1.**

The executive board shall consist of the officers of the chapter and the advisors.

Section 2.

The executive board will have general charge of the meetings and business of the chapter, but any action on the part of the executive board may be subject to the review of the entire chapter.

ARTICLE VI: Supervision**Section 1.**

The activities of this chapter shall be subject to the approval of the principal.

ARTICLE VII: Meetings**Section 1.**

The regular meetings of this chapter shall be held monthly during the school year on days designated by the executive board.

Section 2.

The officers of the chapter shall be elected at the last regular meeting of the year for the following year.

Section 3.

Special meetings, approved by the executive board, may be called by the President.

Section 4.

All meetings shall be open and shall be held under the sponsorship of the advisor.

Section 5.

Attendance at all meetings is mandatory. After a second absence, the member will meet with the adviser(s) to discuss commitment to the NHS. The member may be removed from membership after three absences following review by the executive board and the Faculty Council.

Section 6.

The President will preside over the meetings with a previously established agenda.

Section 7.

A monthly executive board meeting will be held prior to the regular meetings in order to establish an agenda.

ARTICLE VIII: Dismissal and Probation**Section 1.**

Any member who falls below the academic standard, which is the basis of his/her election, shall be warned in writing and subject to academic probation for one term. If, during the next term and/or semester, the member fails to meet the academic standard as a basis for his/her election in the Society, the case shall be passed on to the Faculty Council. If a senior receives a warning in the third term and shows no improvement in the fourth term, he/she may not wear the National Honor Society stole at graduation. A National Honor Society member must maintain the academic standard for membership each term in order to retain his/her membership. Once a member is dismissed, he/she is never again eligible for membership in the National Honor Society.

Section 2.

Any member who fails to maintain the standards of service, leadership, and good character may be subject to probation and/or dismissal after the case has been reviewed and voted on by the Faculty Council. (Any suspendable/disciplinary offense, infraction of school, rules, and/or improper conduct may result in dismissal.)

Section 3.

When a member is dismissed, he/she must be notified in writing and his/her emblem and membership card returned to the advisor.

Section 4.

Any member who is dismissed from the chapter may appeal in writing to the advisor within three (3) days of the receipt of the notification of dismissal and may be required to appear before the Faculty Council.

ARTICLE IX: Emblem**Section 1.**

Each member of the chapter shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools.

Section 2.

Any member who withdraws or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem and membership card.

Section 3.

Each member agrees that, whether the emblem comes to him/her as a gift, personal purchase, an award, or from whatever source, the title to the emblem shall rest with the chapter of which he/she is a member. The Faculty Council can, therefore, by a majority vote, request that any member return the emblem. In the case where the emblem can be shown to be a personal purchase of the member, the Council shall reimburse the member the original cost of the emblem upon surrender. Furthermore, each member agrees that the acceptance of the emblem shall be considered affirmation of this stipulation in regard to the title of the emblem.

Section 4.

All insignia must be procured from the national secretary of the National Honor Society, 1904 Association Drive, Reston, VA 22019. All insignia are registered at the United States Patent Office and may not be duplicated by anyone without permission from the office of the national secretary.

ARTICLE X: Amendments**Section 1.**

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the chapter provided that the proposed amendment has been approved by the chapter's executive board, the Faculty Council, and the national secretary of the National Honor Society and that notice to members has been given at least one (1) month prior to the meeting at which it is to be voted upon.