

Suring High School National Honor Society Chapter Bylaws

Adopted November 22, 2011



Article I

Name

The name of this chapter shall be the Suring High School Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS).

Article II

Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy and positive leadership, and to encourage development of character in the students of Suring High School.

Article III

Powers

Section 1. The local chapter shall follow the constitution of the National Honor Society and shall pay an affiliation fee as set by this organization.

See www.nhs.us/constitutions.

Section 2. The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities. The principal shall annually appoint a member of the faculty as chapter adviser, who may serve consecutive terms.

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. Our chapter of NHS maintains policies and practices that are designed to prevent discrimination against any qualified candidate or member on the basis race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, disability, health impairment, sexual orientation, age, marital status, political affiliation or other factor required by state and federal laws. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all practices, including the chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members.

Section 5. A Faculty Council shall be created at the beginning of each school year and shall consist of five voting members. The Council shall consist of *high school staff members* and the members should be teachers, if possible. However, other high school staff members may be members of the Faculty Council. In the event that there are not enough volunteers, the principal shall annually appoint a Faculty Council composed of five members of the school's faculty who may serve consecutive terms.

Section 6. The Faculty Council shall meet and determine by majority vote selection of candidates, discipline and dismissal of members. In the event that the Faculty Council cannot agree upon a decision or an appeal by students or parents, the principal shall receive appeals in cases of non-selection of candidates, and the disciplining or dismissal of members.

Section 7. The adviser is responsible for the direct day-to-day supervision of the chapter and shall act as a liaison between faculty, administration, students and the community. The adviser shall maintain files on membership, activities and financial transactions.

Article IV Membership

Section 1. Membership in Suring NHS is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by a Faculty Council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

Section 2. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

Section 3. 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. Transfer members must meet the new chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership.

Section 4. 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 5. Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

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

Section 7. Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the gold honor cords and NHS collar at graduation.

Article V Selection of Members

Section 1. To be eligible for membership the candidate must be a sophomore, junior or senior. Candidates must have been in attendance at Suring School the equivalent of at least one semester.

Section 2. The minimum standard for scholarship shall be a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.2 on a 4.0 scale in order to receive the initial letter of potential membership in the local chapter. Returning members who fall below the 3.2 GPA will be given one semester to meet GPA requirement for membership. During this period, the member will be considered a probationary member. Should the member fail to raise his/her GPA to a minimum of 3.2 by the end of the next semester, he/she will be removed from membership and is not eligible for reinstatement.

Section 3. Each student who meets the minimum scholastic requirement shall complete a membership application, obtain character recommendations, and submit them to the chapter adviser by the designated deadline.

Section 4. The selection of each member to the chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council after each Council member reviews the application of each prospective member. Prior to notification of any candidates, the chapter adviser shall review with the principal the results of the Faculty Council's deliberations.

Section 5. A description of the selection procedure shall be published on the school web site for all students and parents of the school.

Article VI Attendance

Attendance for NHS meetings is mandatory. Any member who is unexcused for two NHS meetings shall be brought forward to Faculty Council for review and may include disciplinary action.

Article VII Officers

Section 1. Officers shall be elected annually in the spring each year and shall be a member in good standing. Officers shall include president (must be a returning member), vice president, and secretary-treasurer. Nominations shall be heard and voting by secret ballot shall occur at the May meeting.

Section 2. New officers shall be installed at the annual induction ceremony.

Section 3. The chapter officers shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its meetings, make recommendations to the chapter, and determine and perform such other duties as are specified in the chapter bylaws. All actions and recommendations of the officer group shall be subject to the review of the chapter membership.

Section 4. The officers shall have the responsibility for ensuring that chapter activities and procedures follow school policy and regulations.

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-treasurer shall keep the minutes and attendance records for meetings, be responsible for all official correspondence, and shall keep the record of business expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter.

Section 8. Any officer not performing required duties is subject to removal from office. Further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council may be required depending on actions of officer.

Article VIII Meetings

Section 1. Regular monthly meetings shall be held on the second Tuesday of the month. Meetings shall be attended by all members of NHS. Meetings shall be rescheduled in the event of a missed day of school on the regular meeting day.

Section 2. The chapter officers or advisor may call additional or special meetings when necessary.

Article IX Service

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

Section 2. All members shall regularly participate in these projects.

Section 3. Chapter 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. Each member shall complete 15 hours of individual service during the school year, and this service may not be combined with the service requirement of another organization. Any chapter project can be used to complete required service if participation occurs outside of school hours. Activities during the school day are required, but may not be included as part of the service requirement.

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

Article X Discipline and Dismissal

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the Suring 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 (*3.2 on a scale of 4.0*) he /she will be given a written warning. If the cumulative grade point average remains below standard at the end of the subsequent semester, 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 at school or school-related activities or in the community.

Section 4. Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, insubordination, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive written warning 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 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 will receive written notification from the adviser/Faculty Council indicating the reason for consideration of dismissal.

- b. The member will be given the opportunity 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. 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 to the principal and afterwards according to provisions of the school district discipline policies.

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

Article XI Ratification/Approval

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 chapter advisor and administration.

Article XII Amendments

These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds 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 advisor and Faculty Council with the approval of the principal (selection and discipline). These two articles may be changed by a two-thirds vote of the Faculty Council and the approval of the administration.

Approved and accepted on November 22, 2011

Chapter Members _____

Chapter Advisor _____

Principal _____

Superintendent _____

Approved and accepted on November 22, 2011

Faculty Council
