Fairfield Local HS National Honor Society Bylaws

Adopted: August 12, 2019

ARTICLE I: NAME

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

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 Fairfield Local High School.

ARTICLE III: POWERS

Section 1. This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the NHS National Constitution.

Section 2. The chapter advisor 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 decision of the chapter resides with the school principal.

Section 4. Nondiscrimination:

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 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. 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 quarter at Fairfield Local High School.

c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.

d. Candidates are required to complete a Candidate Application and obtain five letters of recommendation due by the date set by the chapter advisor. Failure to meet the deadline will disqualify the candidate from consideration for membership.

e. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment requirement, GPA standards and having all paperwork turned in by the deadline, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character.

i. The standard of character may only be used as a determining factor for membership if the issue(s) in question has been documented and administration and/or parental contact has been made.

ARTICLE V: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council which consists of five faculty members appointed by the advisor and approved by the principal. The chapter advisor shall by the sixth, nonvoting member. Section 2. The selection of active members shall be held once a year during the first semester.

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 shall be notified via letter and asked to complete and submit the Candidate Application by the deadline for further consideration.

c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official evaluation form provided by the chapter advisor.

d. Candidates will be required to obtain five letters of recommendation to be used during the deliberation process. These five letters are due by the deadline set by the chapter advisor.

e. The Faculty Council shall review the Candidate Application, faculty forms, and recommendation letters to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership.

Section 4. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

Section 5. 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 membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements in order to retain his/her membership.

ARTICLE VI: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Annual dues for full year members for this chapter shall be \$20.00. Dues will be payable to the "Fairfield Local National Honor Society" by the end of the first quarter. Newly inducted members shall pay \$10.00 in dues by the end of the third quarter. **Section 2.** Each member shall regularly participate in all service projects facilitated at Fairfield Local Schools.

Section 3. Each member is encouraged to exhibit leadership in the school by mentoring and/or tutoring students either when asked by the advisor, teachers, administration or through the member's own free will.

Section 4. Each member is encouraged to display exemplary service in the school as well as throughout the community and beyond.

Section 5. Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall be granted the privilege of claiming membership in the National Honor Society.

Section 6. Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the light blue honor cord 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 beginning of the school year. All returning members in good standing with the chapter are eligible to run for a position as an officer.

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 when the advisor is not present and to 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 aid in keeping a record of members' contributions of leadership and service.

Section 6. The secretary shall aid in keeping the minutes and attendance records for meetings.

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

Section 8. Officers and the faculty advisor shall collectively be known as the chapter's Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have general charge of the meetings and the business of the chapter. Any action by the executive committee is subject to the review of the chapter members.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings of this chapter will be announced at least one week in advance of the meeting date via email and school announcements.

Section 2. Members shall attend all meetings.

a. In the event that a member misses a meeting, it is their responsibility to promptly contact the advisor in order to be informed on the minutes of the meeting.

ARTICLE IX: ACTIVITIES

Section 1. The chapter shall complete service projects throughout the school year.

Section 2. All members shall regularly 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. 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 Fairfield Local 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 in 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 (3.5 on a 4.0 scale), 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 can include consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3. Failure of members to regularly attend meeting and/or participate in the required amount of service projects could result in consideration for dismissal.

Section 4. Offenders of the school conduct code will receive written warning notification. A conference may be requested by either party (Faculty Council or student/parent). If the member is involved in a second violation of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal. Section 5. 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, possession of weapons, cheating, truancy, or possession, selling or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school, school-related activities or in the community.

Section 6. In all cases of pending dismissal:

a. The member will receive written notification from the advisor 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. 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.

d. A member who is dismissed or resigns may never again be considered for membership in the National Honor Society.

ARTICLE XI: RATIFICATION, APPROVAL and REVIEW

Section 1. These bylaws were approved by the administration of Fairfield Local High School.

Section 2. These bylaws shall be reviewed regularly and revised as necessary.

Approved on August 12, 2019

Advisor – Kristi Welling

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Principal – Steye Hackett

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