IOLA HIGH SCHOOL
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY BY LAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this chapter shall be the Iola High School 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 members of the National Council.

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 Iola ISD.

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.

Section 2: The chapter advisor(s) is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the campus principal.

Section 3: Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the campus principal.

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, sex (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 in the upcoming school year.
B. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point of 90.00.
C. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter may have no disciplinary action resulting in DAEP placement in the previous or current school year.

D. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and GPA standards, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character.
    1. Service - Service is considered to be those actions undertaken by the student which are done with or on behalf of others without any direct financial or material compensation. To be considered community service, it must not be provided to family members or other organizations in which the student receives service credit.
    2. Leadership - Exercises positive influence on peers and upholds school ideals and spirit. NHS members demonstrate reliability and dependability in the classroom, at work or in other school or community activities.
    3. Character - NHS supports the multi-faceted definition of character known as the 6 pillars of character. A person of character demonstrates the following 6 qualities:
        a. Trustworthiness
        b. Respect
        c. Responsibility
        d. Fairness
        e. Caring
        f. Citizenship

ARTICLE V: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1: The selection of members to this chapter shall be by the Faculty Council, consisting of five faculty members appointed by the principal, reading the applications and filling out a rubric based on the different aspects of the application. The chapter adviser(s) shall be the sixth, non-voting, ex-officio member(s) of the Faculty Council.

Section 2: Prior to selection, the following shall occur:

a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
b. Students who are eligible scholastically ("candidates") shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the NHS Candidate Form for further consideration for selection.
c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official evaluation form provided by the chapter adviser.
d. The Faculty Council shall review the Student Activity Information Form and faculty evaluations in order to determine membership.

Section 3: The selection of new, active members shall be held at the end of the spring semester of the current school year. Candidates will be pulled form members of the sophomore, junior and on some occasions the senior class of the current school year.

Section 4: Accepted candidates become active members at the first scheduled monthly meeting or at a special induction ceremony, whichever comes first.

Section 5: An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of his/her membership and signed by the principal or adviser.

Section 6: An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter with verification from the previous chapter.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of the chapter shall be President, Vice-President(s), Secretary/Secretaries, and Historian.

Section 2: Student officers shall be elected at the last meeting of each school year. All returning junior members in good standing with the chapter are eligible to run for a position as an officer. Any active member can nominate an eligible member as a candidate for office. There will be no campaigning for officer positions.

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 over meetings
- Prepare agenda with executive committee
- Must check in with advisor WEEKLY
- Delegate “jobs”

Section 5: The **Vice-President(s)** shall:

- Keep record of all service hours and meeting/event attendance on spread sheet
- Keep advisor updated every six weeks with hard copy of spread sheet
- Plan, prepare, and schedule monthly events from September-May
- Clear the event with the advisor.
- Help plan and set up for parties
- Organize all events set-up and clean-up

Section 6: The **Secretary/Secretaries** shall:

- Take and read minutes of all meetings
- Prepare attendance letters for all members that miss a meeting or event
- Prepare and assign Character Education Announcements, quotes, posters, etc.
- E-mail, text, call, or inform members of upcoming events including meetings.
- Prepare announcements
- Inform district, local newspaper, or others of chapter activities
- Thank you notes as needed
- Posters as needed

Section 7: The **Historian** shall:

- Record chapter events with pictures or videos
- Prepare power point for induction
- Provide and prepare programs/pamphlets
- Provide pictures to corresponding secretary for web, newspaper, and Facebook, etc.

Section 8: All officers may have additional duties assigned by advisor if they become necessary.

Section 9: Officers and the faculty advisor 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.

Section 10: In the event of an officer vacancy, a special election will be held for the office at the next scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1: Meetings of this chapter shall be as needed.

Section 2: All chapter members are expected to attend all scheduled meetings, unless out for school activities.

ARTICLE VIII: ACTIVITIES

Section 1: The chapter shall participate in service projects throughout the year.

Section 2: All members shall regularly participate in these projects, accumulating a minimum of 10-chapter hours per school year.

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: Beginning the day after graduation of each academic school year, each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in a minimum of 3 hours of individual community service per semester for a total of 6 individual hours per year. These community service projects should reflect his or her particular talents and interests and as approved by the chapter adviser. Community service is generally considered to be those actions undertaken by the student which are done on behalf of others who are outside their family, without any financial or material benefit to the student. The service hours need to be documented on organizational letterhead with the date of service, hours of service, service provided, and the supervisor's name and contact information. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute.

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

Section 6: Members of the Iola Chapter of the National Honor Society will be required to attend practices and participate in at least one event of the Academic UIL meet. This is normally held in the spring.

ARTICLE IX: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Section 1: Annual dues for this chapter shall be $20.00. Members may purchase an Iola National Honor Society shirt for an additional cost.

Section 2: It is the responsibility of the individual member to keep informed of chapter activities and attend chapter meetings and activities. Members need to listen for announcements and check established communication links. It is the responsibility of the individual member to record and submit service points earned to the Vice-President(s).

Section 3: Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall be entitled to the following:

a. National Honor Society certificate upon graduation.
b. National Honor Society pin at the induction ceremony.
c. Wearing the National Society Honor Cords at graduation.

Section 4: Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the pin or be fined.

ARTICLE X: DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL

Section 1: Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service may be dismissed from the Iola 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.

Section 2: Any member who lacks participation in NHS meetings and activities may be dismissed from the Iola High School Chapter of the NHS. Events that can lead to dismissal include, but is not limited to the following:

a. Missing more than two consecutive NHS meetings without prior written notification of the advisor.
b. Total lack of participation in major chapter fundraisers and service projects as identified by the Executive Committee and advisor.
c. Less than 10 hours of NHS-approved community service accumulated during the current school year and submitted in writing before the last day of April of that school year.
d. Less than 6 hours of individual community service per school year.
e. Failure to pay chapter dues and return NHS Constitution Signature page by assigned date.

Section 3: If a member's cumulative GPA falls below the 90.000 standard, he/she will be given a written warning and a time period of 6 weeks for improvement. If the cumulative GPA remains below standard at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council that may include dismissal from the chapter.

Section 4: Violation of the law or school regulations can result in 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.

Section 5: Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, 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 will be dismissed pending a hearing.

Section 6: 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 7: 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 campus principal for review, and then stated in a letter sent to the student and parents. Dismissed members must surrender the pin to the advisor
d. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the campus principal and afterwards according to provisions of the Iola ISD discipline policies.
e. A member who is dismissed or resigns will never again be considered for membership in the National Honor Society

Section 8: In lieu of dismissal, the Faculty Council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE XI: POWERS

Section 1: The chapter adviser(s) is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

Section 2: The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

Section 3: These by-laws are designed to amplify provisions of the National Constitution and cannot contradict any components thereof. The chapter is obligated to adhere to the provisions of the National Constitution in all activities it undertakes.