CONSTITUTION AND EXPECTATIONS

of the

SPRING LAKE CHAPTER

of the

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Article I
NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be the Spring Lake 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 national secretary.

Section 2. The object 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 all students of the Spring Lake High School.

Section 3. This organization is optional for students who choose to aspire to a higher standard held for required programs. As a group representing the best of our students at SLHS, the administration reserves the right to determine the expectations for the group and its members.

Article II
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be based upon scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

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 term in this school.

Section 3. Candidates eligible for election to this chapter must be members of the sophomore, junior, or senior class. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum scholarship average of 3.750. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed and shall be the required minimum scholastic level of achievement for admission to candidacy. All students who can rise in scholarship to or above such standard may be admitted to candidacy for election to membership. Their eligibility shall then be considered on their service, leadership, and character. All candidates in the spring of 2024 shall have a minimum scholarship average of 3.750.

Article III
ELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. The election of members to this chapter of the National Honor Society shall be by a chapter council consisting of the principal and members of the faculty; in no case should there be fewer than five teachers who are to be chosen by the principal.

Section 2. The faculty council will put out a recommendation list of all students who apply for membership and meet the grade point average required. All staff members will have the opportunity to rate candidates in the areas of character, citizenship, and leadership. Those rating forms will be collected and collated by the faculty council. Any student who falls below the 80% positive rating will be either denied or brought into the National Honor Society under a probationary status. A student who is denied or brought in under probationary status may meet with the principal for clarification. Students who are denied may apply the next year.

Section 3. Any member who falls below the grade point average which was the basis of his/her election shall be promptly warned. If the member fails to meet the grade point used as the basis for his/her election to the Society during the next regular school term, his/her case shall be passed upon by the faculty council. A National Honor Society member must maintain the required grade point average standard for membership in order to retain his/her membership. A member will be allowed only one warning period. A senior member must meet grade point average requirements in order to receive cords and NHS distinction at graduation.

Section 4. Members who fall below the standard of acceptable and appropriate behavior will be subjected to disciplinary action. Based on the seriousness of the incident, a member's discipline may range from probation to dismissal. If members receive a suspension, they will automatically be dismissed from the National Honor Society. Probationary status means that members are required to consult with the advisers to know if they are to participate in any National Honor Society function. Their participation will be at the discretion of the National Honor Society advisers. If students have no further infractions, they will be reinstated as full members at the start of the next school year. Members will be notified in writing by the principal of the rationale for the discipline and the details of the consequences. Notice of dismissal of members must be indicated on the annual report submitted to the national secretary at the end of the school year. Probationary members will be noted only on the records of the school and not reported to the national organization.

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.

Section 6. An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter. This transfer member must maintain the membership requirements for this chapter in order to retain his/her membership.

Article IV
OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this chapter shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. The advisers will conduct an annual election of officers who are nominated for the position.

Section 2. A majority of votes cast 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 this chapter.

Section 4. The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president.

Section 5. The chapter secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings, a record of all business, and all records on file. He/She shall, with the approval of the principal or advisers, certify to the national secretary of the National Council the names of all members for the current school year on the annual report submitted to National Headquarters.

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 and report to the membership the financial standing of the organization.

Article V
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of four members at large chosen by the advisers of the chapter council and the officers of the chapter.

Section 2. The executive committee shall have general charge of the meetings and business of the chapter, but any action on the part of the executive committee may be subject to the review of the chapter membership at regular meetings and be placed at a vote of the entire membership.

Section 3. All accounts of the treasurer must be audited annually by the advisers.

Article VI
SUPERVISION

Section 1. The activities of this chapter shall be subject to the approval of the principal. All rules of the *SLHS Student Handbook* will be in effect at all activities of this organization.

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 committee and approved by the principal and advisers.

Section 2. The officers of this chapter shall be elected at the last regular meeting of the year.

Section 3. Special meetings, approved by the executive committee, may be called by the president.

Section 4. All meetings shall be open meetings and shall be held under the sponsorship of the principal or some member of the faculty selected by him/her.

Section 5. This chapter shall conduct its meetings according to *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* in all points not expressly provided for in the constitution of this chapter.

Article VIII
EMBLEM

Section 1. Each member of this 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 will return the emblem. (See Article III, Section 4). All withdrawal requests must be made in writing with a signature from member and parent. Any member who is removed from the roster relinquishes any ability to claim participation on a college application, a job application, and gives up any and all recognition at graduation.

Section 3. Each member agrees that, whether the emblem comes to him/her as a gift, a 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 have been a personal purchase of the member, the Council shall reimburse the member the original cost of the emblem upon its surrender. Furthermore, each member agrees that his/her 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, Virginia 22091. All insignia are registered in the United States Patent Office and cannot be duplicated by anyone.

Article IX
DUES

Section 1. The annual chapter dues for each member shall be **$5.00**, which will be due by the **October** meeting. This amount shall be subject to the approval of the executive committee of the chapter.

Article X
BYLAWS

Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be based upon scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship.

Section 2. Membership of this chapter shall be known as active, graduate, and honorary. The graduate and honorary members have no vote. Active members become graduate members at graduation.

Section 3. Regular attendance at chapter meetings, service events, and induction ceremonies is expected. Each member must attend no less than seven (7) out of nine (9) meetings during the academic school year. Any member who fails to attend the required 7 out of 9 meetings will be immediately placed on probation, and the students' case will be passed on to the Faculty Council to decide if the student may remain a member of the National Honor Society.

Section 4. The major goal of this organization is to provide service to the school and community. Each member must complete the required service hours and service projects each year. Failure to complete service hours and service projects will result in immediate probation. If hours are not completed by the end of the school year, an automatic dismissal will take place. If a senior member does not complete the required amount of service hours, they will not receive National Honor Society cords (or similar) at graduation. The services done through the National Honor Society may apply toward senior community service hours if the senior chooses to fill out the proper paperwork for the senior class advisor.

Section 5. It is the administration's goal to have this organization act as a role model group for the rest of the school students.

Section 6: Any fines incurred during the junior year of membership must be paid BEFORE or AT the first general membership meeting of the following school year. Failure to remit payment will result in automatic and permanent dismissal. Any fines incurred during the senior year of membership must be paid before the Induction Ceremony. Failure to remit payment will result in automatic and permanent dismissal.

Please upload a signed copy of <u>this page only</u> to Schoology* by the October meeting. *Keep this packet for your records.



_____ I hereby understand and pledge to abide by all of the guidelines and expectations of the Spring Lake High School Chapter of the National Honor Society.

Print Student Name: _____

***Student Signature* : _____**

Date : _____

***Parent/Guardian Signature* :**
_____

Date : _____

Please return to Mrs. Pepin or Mrs. Beebe as soon as possible. Thank you.