

Honor Society Chapter Bylaws-Shelter Island High School NHS

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1—The name of this chapter shall be the Shelter Island Chapter of the National Honor Society of Shelter Island High School.

Section 2—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 Shelter Island High School.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1—Membership in this chapter shall be known as active and honorary. Honorary members become graduate members at graduation. Graduate and honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 2—Membership in this chapter is an honor bestowed upon deserving students by the Faculty Council, and shall be based on the criteria of scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

Section 3—Eligibility

a. Candidates eligible for election to this chapter must be following the first quarter of 10th, 11th or 12th grade.

b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of one semester at Shelter Island High School.

c. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have:

- A cumulative average of 90% or better
- A coursework of academic rigor indicated by working to achieve the highest level of Regents Diploma offered by New York State
- A total absence rate of less than 10% (The Faculty Council will consider special circumstances)
- Any Disciplinary referrals given within the past two quarters will be reviewed by the Faculty Council to determine their severity
- Service as demonstrated by involvement in a multitude of school and/or community organizations
- Leadership as evaluated by offices held in school and/or community organizations
- Character as demonstrated by conduct in and outside of school, an essay written by the student speaking to personal character, and a letter of reference supporting such character

ARTICLE III: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

This NHS is under the sponsorship of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), as well as the guidance of the Faculty Council of five SIHS teachers and the leadership of the SIHS NHS Adviser.

Section 1—The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council consisting of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The Chapter adviser shall be the sixth, non-voting, ex officio member of the Faculty Council.

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

1. Students' academic, disciplinary, and attendance records shall be reviewed to determine eligibility (see Article II section 3).
2. Students who are eligible ("candidates") shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the Student Activity Information Packet for further consideration for selection.
3. The Faculty Council shall review the Student Activity Information Packet and faculty evaluations in order to determine membership.

Section 3—The selection of new active members shall be held following the first quarter of the Sophomore year. An opportunity for membership shall also be given following the first quarter of the Junior and Senior year.

Section 4—Sophomore, Junior and Senior Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony. Attendance at said ceremony is mandatory. Exceptions may be made by the faculty council.

Section 5—Once selected and inducted, all members are expected to maintain the standards, in and outside of school, by which they were selected, and maintain all obligations of membership.

Section 6—An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of his or her membership and signed by the principal or chapter adviser.

Section 7—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 the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain his or her membership.

ARTICLE IV: DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL

Section 1—Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, service, or character may be considered for dismissal from the Shelter Island chapter of the National Honor Society. A member of the National Honor Society is expected to maintain his or her academic standing and take an active role in service and leadership to his or her school and community. He or she is expected to exhibit positive behavior and possess integrity. The chapter adviser will monitor students for compliance.

Section 2—If a member's cumulative GPA falls below the standard in effect when he or she was selected (90%), he or she will be given a written warning and a time period 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, which may include consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3—If a member fails to perform any of the published obligations of membership, he or she will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement. If the obligation remains unmet at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action

by the Faculty Council (i.e. loss of privileges, additional community service), which may include dismissal from the chapter.

Section 4—Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absence, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive written notification. A conference may be requested by either party. If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal. Flagrant violations may result in an immediate move to dismiss.

Section 5—Cheating of any kind is expressly forbidden. Members must neither give nor receive academic information inappropriately. Students found guilty of cheating can be brought up for immediate consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

Section 6—When National Honor Society members post photographs, pictures, comments, or statements on any web-based social network, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat and Tinder, they are held to the same standards and qualities of character and leadership under which they were selected.

Section 7—Violation of the law or school regulations can result in dismissal of a member. These violations include, but are not limited to, stealing; destruction of property; cheating; truancy; or possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol. The Faculty Council can review patterns of behavior as the basis for dismissal.

Section 8—In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the adviser or Faculty Council. The member and adviser can discuss the written notification in a conference. Situations that involve flagrant violations of school rules or the law can warrant disciplinary action without a written warning, although a hearing must still be held.
- b. The member will be given “Due Process”, the opportunity to respond to the charge against him or her at a hearing before the Faculty Council prior to the vote on dismissal. If the student chooses to respond in writing instead of appearing before the Faculty Council, this will be considered “Due Process”. 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 reviewed by the principal, and then expressed in a letter sent to the student, parents, and principal. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser.
- d. The Faculty Council’s decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards through the school district discipline policy.
- e. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he or she is no longer a member and may not be reconsidered for membership in the National Honor Society.

Section 9—In lieu of dismissal, the Faculty Council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE V: 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 last meeting of each school year. All returning active members are eligible to run for a position as an officer. A member cannot put

his or her name forward for more than two offices. All active members of the chapter are eligible to vote.

Section 3—A majority vote, by secret ballot, shall be necessary to elect any officer of this chapter. The voting quorum is 50% attendance of members in good standing. 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. If this results in a tie, the Faculty Council will decide the outcome.

Section 4—It shall be the duty of the president to set the agenda and preside at the meetings for this chapter.

Section 5—The vice president shall preside in the absence of the president and remind members of upcoming meetings.

Section 6—The secretary shall distribute a calendar of meetings, keep the minutes of meetings and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence.

Section 7—The treasurer shall keep the record of chapter expenses, dues, and complete all other financial transactions of the chapter.

Section 8— Officers can be relieved of their position if they fail to fulfill their duties (including suspensions, failure to adhere to the attendance policies, or other decisions made by the Faculty Council). Vacancies, should they occur during the year, will be voted upon by the majority vote of members in good standing.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1—The executive committee shall consist of the faculty adviser and the chapter officers.

Section 2—The executive committee shall 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.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1—Meetings of the executive committee shall be decided upon at the start of the school year.

Section 2— Meetings of this chapter shall be biweekly. The date and time shall be arrived at by consensus of all members in good standing at the first meeting of the school year.

Section 3—All chapter members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled chapter meetings. Three unexcused absences from meetings will result in a disciplinary referral by the Faculty Council. Three meeting latenesses of more than five minutes shall constitute a missed meeting.

ARTICLE VIII: ACTIVITIES

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

Section 2—Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in an individual service project (either for the duration of the school year or per quarter) that reflects his or her particular talents and interests and as approved by the chapter adviser. This is in addition to the chapter service projects, to which all members contribute.

Section 3—All members shall regularly participate in projects. Absence from a designated chapter project will require an additional individual or chapter service project for the quarter.

Section 4— These projects shall have the following characteristics: fulfill a need within the school or community; have the support of the administration and the faculty; and be well planned, organized, and executed.

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

ARTICLE IX: EMBLEM

Section 1—Each member of this chapter who is in good standing, with regard to the membership standards and member obligations, shall have the privilege of wearing the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society.

Section 2—Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter. If the members purchased such emblems, the chapter is obligated to reimburse the student for said expense.

Section 3—Chapter members who are Seniors in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the honor sash at graduation.

ARTICLE X: DUES

Section 1—Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$0.

ARTICLE XI: POWERS

Section 1—The chapter adviser 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 bylaws 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.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1—These bylaws 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 III and IV (selection and discipline), which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the principal.

Section 2—Bylaws and amendments must be consistent with the constitution of the National Honor Society.

Adopted June 2007
Amended May 2008
Amended Sept. 2009
Amended May 2010
Amended May 2011
Amended Sept.2011
Reviewed June 2012
Reviewed June 2014
Amended April 2015
Amended June 2016
Amended June 2017
Amended May 2018