CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTHAMPTON HONOR SOCIETY

The following shall be the constitution for the Southampton Township School Honor Society.

ARTICLE I: Name and Purpose

SECTION 1. The name of this organization shall be the Southampton Honor Society (SHS).
SECTION 2. Purpose: The Southampton Honor Society (SHS) exists to recognize students who have demonstrated excellence in scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character, and to promote these qualities among all students.

ARTICLE II: The Principal

SECTION 1. The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.
SECTION 2. The principal shall annually appoint chapter advisors, who may serve consecutive terms.

ARTICLE III: The Chapter Advisors

SECTION 1. The chapter advisors shall be responsible for the direct, day-to-day supervision, of the chapter and act as liaison between faculty, administration, students, and community.
SECTION 2. The chapter advisors shall maintain files on membership, chapter history, activities, and financial transactions.
SECTION 3. The chapter advisors shall regularly review each member for compliance with society standards and obligations.
SECTION 4. The chapter advisors shall help the chapter officers understand and carry out their duties.

ARTICLE IV: Faculty Council

SECTION 1. The faculty council shall consist of the Vice-Principal and five faculty members who are appointed annually by the principal.
SECTION 2. The term of the faculty council shall be one year. Members may be appointed to consecutive terms.
SECTION 3. The chapter advisors shall be an ex-officio member of the faculty council.
SECTION 4. The faculty council shall meet at least once a year to select members and to consider dismissal, nonselection, and warning cases.

ARTICLE V: Membership

SECTION 1. Membership in local chapters is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by a faculty council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, service, and citizenship. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue and demonstrate these qualities.
SECTION 2. The faculty council shall reserve the right to award honorary membership to school officials, principals, teachers, SHS advisor, or citizens in recognition of outstanding service rendered in the school in keeping with the purposes of the Southampton Honor Society.
SECTION 3. New members shall be inducted at a special ceremony.
SECTION 4. A Southampton Honor Society member who transfers from another school and brings a letter from the former principal or chapter advisor to the Southampton principal shall be accepted automatically as a member in the Southampton chapter. Transfer members must meet the Southampton chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership.
SECTION 5. Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.

ARTICLE VI: Selection of Members

SECTION 1. To be eligible for membership the candidate must be a member of the seventh or eighth grade class designated as eligible in the chapter bylaws. Candidates must have been in attendance at the school the equivalent two marking periods.
SECTION 2. Candidates entering seventh grade must have a cumulative grade point average of a 3.75 on a 4.0 scale at the end of 6th grade. Candidates entering eighth grade must have a cumulative grade point average of a 3.75 on a 4.0 scale at the end of 7th grade. Candidates shall then be evaluated on the basis of service, leadership, character, and citizenship.
SECTION 3. The selection of members to the chapter shall be by a majority vote of the faculty council.
SECTION 4. A description of the selection procedure shall be published on the school district's website which are widely available to all students and parents in the school. The selection procedure shall be determined by the faculty council.

ARTICLE VII: Dismissal

SECTION 1. The procedure for dismissal shall be determined by the faculty council in compliance with the rules and regulations of the Southampton Honor Society. A copy of the bylaws shall be available to interested parties.

SECTION 2. Members who fall below the standards which are the basis for their Selection, or fail to fulfill the requirements outlined in the Honor Society Student Contract shall be promptly warned in writing by the chapter advisors and given a reasonable amount of time to correct the deficiency, except that in the case of a flagrant violation of school rules or civil laws a member does not necessarily have to be warned. Any disciplinary action that leads to a suspension will automatically result in removal from the Southampton Honor Society. Violations of academic dishonesty, cheating, and plagiarism will result in the removal from the Southampton Honor Society.

SECTION 3. After two warnings a member will be put on probation. This probation will be one month in length and the member will be expected to have zero infractions while on probation. Any infractions that occur while a member is on probation will result in immediate dismissal. A member can only be placed on probation one time in a school year. If a second probation is warranted the member will be dismissed.

SECTION 4. In all cases of impending dismissal, a member shall have a right to a hearing before the faculty council.

SECTION 5. A member who has been dismissed may appeal the decision of the faculty council under the same rules for disciplinary appeals in the school district.

ARTICLE VIII: Chapter Officers

SECTION 1. The officers of the chapters, their duties, and the method of their election shall be determined by the members of the chapter and be described in the chapter bylaws.

SECTION 2. A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to elect any chapter officer.

SECTION 3. New officers shall be elected at the end of each year to serve the following school year.

ARTICLE IX : Executive Committee

SECTION 1. The executive committee shall consist of the officers of the chapter and the chapter advisors.

SECTION 2. The executive committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its business meetings, making recommendations to the chapter, and determining and performing such other duties as are specified in the chapter bylaws. All actions and recommendations of the executive committees shall be subject to the review of chapter membership.

SECTION 3. The executive committee shall have the responsibility for ensuring that chapter activities and procedures follow school policy and regulations.

ARTICLE X: Meetings

SECTION 1. The chapter shall have regular meetings during the school year on days designated by the advisors and in accordance with school regulations.
SECTION 2. The regularity of the meetings (i.e. weekly, monthly, and bimonthly) shall be designated in the chapter bylaws.
SECTION 3. Special meetings approved by the executive committee and may be called by the president and advisors.

ARTICLE XI: Activities

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. 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. Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in a service project which reflects his or her particular talents and interests. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute.
SECTION 5. The chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.

ARTICLE XII: Bylaws

SECTION 1. The chapter shall write bylaws to amplify sections of this constitution and to clarify operating procedures of the chapter.
SECTION 2. The bylaws shall contain information concerning the election and duties of officers, the schedule of meetings, member obligations, selection and dismissal procedures, and the like.

*Updated May 2025