

Chapter Bylaws
of the
Burrell High School Chapter
of the
National Honor Society
Adopted: May 27, 2025

ARTICLE I: NAME The name of this organization shall be the Burrell High School Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS).

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of this chapter shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of Burrell High School.

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. In addition, this chapter will maintain active affiliation with the national organization on an annual basis.

Section 2: The chapter adviser 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 decisions 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, gender identity, sexual orientation and disability. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all practices, including the chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members. [Note: Local advisers should confer with the principal and or school system representatives regarding the inclusion of the language from this section to be certain it conforms to existing local and state policies.]

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 alumni. Active members become alumni members at graduation. Alumni 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 sophomore, junior, or senior class and must have been enrolled for a period equivalent to one semester at Burrell High School.
- B. Candidates shall possess a school record devoid of any documented disciplinary actions or infractions.
- C. Candidates' attendance (absent, tardy, and early dismissal) must all be excused. Any student who is considered truant is not eligible.
- D. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.75 and maintain a 3.75 gpa each 9-weeks.
- E. Candidates and members must be enrolled in at least one honors or advanced placement course each semester.

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 principal. The chapter adviser shall be the sixth, nonvoting, ex officio member of the faculty council.

Section 2: The selection of new members shall be held once a year during the second semester of the school year.

Section 3: Prior to the final selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. Students' discipline records shall be reviewed to assist in determining a candidate's character
- c. All students who are eligible (i.e., candidates) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the candidate information form for further consideration.
- d. The faculty council shall review the candidate information, forms, faculty input, and other relevant information to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership.
[Note: Additional steps such as essays, external recommendations, or interviews can be included here as components of the local selection process. See the National Handbook regarding these concepts.]

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

Section 5: An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given an official letter indicating the status of his/her membership.

Section 6: 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/her membership.

Section 7: Executive Board / Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Service Coordinator) will be selected through an interview process. The executive board shall consist of four senior members and one junior member. Officer duties shall be defined by the advisor and aligned with national NHS guidelines.

ARTICLE VI: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Section 1: Annual dues for this chapter shall not exceed \$20 a year. Dues will be payable to the chapter within 30 days of each academic school year. Ideally the chapter will elect to fundraise during the first month of school.

Section 2: Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society. Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

Section 3: The chapter shall determine one or more service projects for the year. 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 of documenting service hours, minimum of 30 per school year (15 each semester) using the InnerView platform. Students may carry 10 hours of service from the summer. Students wishing to obtain a service award from the Innerview.org platform site must have hours completed by April 15th. NHS requires hours to be completed by May 30th.

Section 5: Officers will determine various NHS sponsored activities, events, or fundraisers throughout the year and all members will be required to participate.

Section 6: Each member is responsible for attending chapter meetings. Members must notify the advisor in advance if they are unable to attend. Meetings will be held twice a month. Dates and times will be determined by the executive board at the start of each semester. Students missing more than 2 meetings a semester will be evaluated for disciplinary actions.

Section 7: Attendance at the induction ceremony is mandatory for all members.

ARTICLE VII: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL of MEMBERS

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, service, leadership, or character may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the Burrell 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 receives three (3) disciplinary strikes will be subject to removal from the organization. Strikes may be issued for failure to meet attendance requirements, lack of participation in mandatory events, missing deadlines, violation of school rules, or behavior that does not reflect the values of the NHS. All strikes will be documented and communicated to the members and their guardians. This policy is intended to ensure that all members uphold the principles upon which the National Honor Society is founded.

Section 3. If a member's cumulative grade point average falls below the standard in effect when he/she was selected (fill in the minimum cumulative grade point average for your chapter selection), 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 includes consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

Section 4. 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, cheating, truancy, or possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities or in the community.

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 may be considered for dismissal.

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 has the right 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 principal for review, and then stated in a letter sent to the student and parents. 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 according to provisions of the school district discipline policies.
- e. A member who is dismissed or resigns may 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 VIII: RATIFICATION, APPROVAL, and REVIEW.

Section 1: These bylaws will be approved upon receiving a two-thirds affirmative vote of all active members of the chapter, a majority affirmative vote of the faculty council, and approval by the administration.

Section 2: These bylaws shall be reviewed and if necessary, revised within five years from the date of approval noted on this document.

These bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 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 IV, V, and VII, which are developed by the faculty council with the approval of the principal.

Approved on May 27, 2025

Signed Copy on File