



# Bylaws of the Delta High School Chapter of the National Honor Society

UPDATED April, 2011

## ARTICLE 1 NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of the chapter shall be the Delta High School Chapter of the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools.

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 all students of Delta High School.

## ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

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

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

Section 3. To be eligible for selection to membership, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period equivalent to one semester in this school.

Section 4. Membership is open to qualified juniors, and seniors in the fall and to sophomores and juniors in the spring. Academic points will be computed according to the following:

GRADE POINT AVERAGE: (9.500 or higher) X 3 plus points gained for taking academically challenging classes

Fall Induction: Seniors 44 pts.  
Juniors 39 pts.

Spring Induction: Juniors 40 pts.  
Sophomores 38 pts.

Only points from completed classes will be calculated. (Effective Fall 2011)

English: 1 point per semester for Honors 9 and 10

American Studies: ½ point per semester for English

American Studies: ½ point per semester for history

(May only be counted once if taken as dual credit or not)

Foreign Language: 1 point per semester, but first year must have been successfully completed before semester points will count.

PLTW: 1 point per semester, but first year must have been successfully completed before semester points will count.

Math: 1 point per semester for all classes above Algebra I

Science: 1 point per semester for all classes above Biology I  
(Chem1, Chem2, Bio2, Physics)

ALL dual credit courses: 1 point per semester

All faculty members receive an evaluation sheet to assess potential candidates in the areas of character, service, leadership, and scholarship. Faculty will only evaluate students they have worked with in the last 12 months. In addition the disciplinary history of all potential candidates will be reviewed and will be utilized by the Faculty Council when making membership decisions.

The Faculty Council makes the final determination on issues of membership and dismissal. The council, consisting of five faculty members, and must be approved by the principal. The NHS faculty advisor is in attendance at all Faculty Council meetings, but has no voting privileges. No principal or assistant principal may be included on the Faculty Council. Prior to notification of any candidates, the chapter adviser shall review with the principal the results of the Faculty Council's deliberations.

Section 5. Selection of new members shall take place following the release of the preceding semester grade point averages. An initiation ceremony will be performed for juniors and seniors in the fall and for sophomores, and juniors, in the spring. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

Section 6. In order to retain membership, the student must uphold the standards, which were the basis of his/her selection. **Any of the following infractions will lead to consideration of termination of membership after notification in writing of the infraction and after a hearing with the Faculty Council only at the student's request. If no request is made, the termination is automatic. Following the decision of the Faculty Council, any subsequent hearings requested by the student will be directed to the principal.**

1. A student must maintain a B+ (9.0) or higher GPA. A student must not make any semester grade lower than a C-. Failure of a student to maintain these academic standards will lead to dismissal from NHS.
2. A student will be reported to the Faculty Council if a teacher reports a verifiable incident of cheating to the NHS sponsor or to the administration. Cheating consists of: utilizing or providing ANY unallowable outside assistance which falsely represents a student's true academic abilities.
3. A student will be reported to the Faculty Council for any verifiable incident involving use of tobacco, drugs, or alcohol within the confines of the school's authority.
4. A student will be reported to the Faculty Council for any verifiable conduct unbecoming a member of NHS. (truancy, fighting, vandalism, etc.)

Section 7. **Loss of membership is automatic upon the FIRST instance of testing positive under the Delta High School Drug Testing Policy.**

Section 8. Loss of membership means the student's name will be removed from the roster and his pin, emblems, membership card, and certificate must be turned in with no refunds from fees or dues.

Section 9. An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of his membership signed by the principal.

Section 10. An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter after a principal's verification letter is received. This transfer member must maintain the membership requirements for this chapter in

order to retain his membership. Each member will receive a copy of the adopted Delta High School Bylaws and should be acquainted with all disciplinary procedures.

Section 11. The principal shall receive appeals in cases of non-selection of candidates, and the disciplining or dismissal of members.

Section 12. Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.

### **ARTICLE III OFFICERS**

Section 1. Only senior members may serve as officers. Any member who has a probationary membership may not serve as an officer.

Section 2. The officers of the chapter shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

Section 3. A majority of votes cast shall be necessary to elect any officer of this chapter and approved by the Faculty Council and the principal

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings of this chapter. The president will present a written agenda at the executive meeting preceding each regular meeting. Meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's *Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

Section 5. The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president.

Section 6. The chapter's secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings, a record of all business, and all reports on file. The secretary is also responsible for taking attendance at the meetings.

Section 7. The treasurer shall receive and disburse funds of the chapter and keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements in accordance with school regulations and under the supervision of the advisor.

Section 8: Elections must be held before May 10. At the regular meeting one week prior to elections, candidates will be nominated from the floor by a member other than the nominee, and each nomination must be seconded by another member other than the nominee. Candidates must be present to accept the nomination or have given prior permission to the advisor. Each candidate must respond to their nomination by presenting a statement of intent as a NHS officer and attend the next scheduled executive committee meeting. Voting will take place a week later at a meeting of only sophomore and junior members.

Section 9. Junior or senior members will be elected by the membership as chairpersons for the standing committees: Fundraising, Scholarship, Publicity, and Service. Any member may serve on a subcommittee.

Section 10. The officers and standing committee chairpersons shall make up the executive committee, which shall have general charge of the meetings and business of the chapter.

Executive meetings will be held one week before each regular meeting. Subcommittee chairpersons may be in attendance at the request of the president.

Section 11: Induction of officers and assignment of committee chairpersons shall take place before the end of school, if possible.

Section 12: If an officer has to resign from his or her office for any reason, two weeks notice will be given for nominations for that office, and the president or an officer designated by the president will take over the office until elections can be held. Seniors must be nominated if the replacement is needed for the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, or Secretary. A junior or senior may be nominated to replace a member in any other office. After the two weeks, candidates must be present to accept the nomination or have given prior permission to the advisor. Each candidate must respond to their nomination by presenting a statement of intent as a NHS officer and attend the next scheduled officer meeting. Voting will take place one week later.

#### **ARTICLE IV SUPERVISION**

Section 1. The activities of this chapter shall be subject to the approval of the advisor and the principal. The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

#### **ARTICLE V MEETINGS**

Section 1. The regular meetings will be held once to two times per month during the school year. All members are expected to attend.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the president with sponsor approval.

#### **ARTICLE VI ATTENDANCE**

Section 1. All members are expected to be present at the call to order by the president.

Section 2. No member shall have more than two unexcused absences per school year. An unexcused absence occurs if no notification is given to the secretary within the one-week period following a meeting. An unexcused absence also occurs if the reason for an absence does not meet the requirement for an excused absence. For instance, oversleeping or forgetting will not be considered excused.

Section 3. **No member shall be allowed more than three total absences (excused or unexcused) except for emergency situations**, extended illnesses, or classroom or extra-curricular activities.

Section 4. Reasons for which one shall be excused from participation at any NHS event are work, illness, athletic contests, funerals, extra-curricular duties, being unavoidably out of town, or similar situations.

Section 5. Excusable absences shall be written on forms provided by the secretary or advisor, shall include the reason for the absence, and shall be signed by someone in authority. These excuses will be given to the secretary who will regularly submit attendance records to the NHS advisor. All excuses must be validated by the advisor.

Section 6. Persons acceptable to sign excuses shall be: parents, job employers, extra-curricular sponsors, teachers, or other adult supervisors. A parent shall sign for illness, funerals, and out of town excuses.

Section 7. **Upon the second unexcused absence or third total absence**, the member will receive a letter of warning from the advisor stating that upon the next absence a recommendation will be made to the Faculty Council that the member be removed from National Honor Society. On receipt of the warning letter, a member may request a hearing with the Faculty Council.

Section 8. The doors of the meeting room will be closed at **five minutes** after the announced starting time of the meeting. Any member arriving within five minutes of the announced starting time will be considered **tardy**. Any member arriving **more than five minutes** after the announced starting time of the meeting will be considered **absent**. The attendance policy will be strictly enforced.

Section 9. Any member accumulating two tardies within a semester shall be given a warning, and, on the third, shall have to complete an additional service point. Three more tardies shall add another service point, and so on.

## **ARTICLE VII PARTICIPATION**

Section 1. Each member shall be required to participate in all activities before, during, and after school, held by the National Honor Society. **Initiation is a priority event.**

Section 2. Lack of participation is governed by the attendance policy (Article VI, Sections 1-6)

Section 3. Members are required to earn **five** community service points per semester. At least *one* of the five community service points must be a *time donation for a minimum of 1 hour*. Only one service point can be earned from any single non-time donation activity. Accepted community service opportunities deemed worthy of points shall be established by the executive committee with the approval of the advisor. The Service Chairperson shall keep accurate records of members' community service points.

Section 4. Service awards will be presented to all members who earn more than ten service points each semester. Awards will be presented at the end of each year.

Section 5. Each member is expected to pay yearly membership dues, which will be established by a two-thirds vote at a regular scheduled meeting at the beginning of the year. Dues shall be paid or arrangements be made by the established due date or the member will be in jeopardy of losing membership. Membership dues will be used to pay for induction expenses, national dues, local donations, service projects, and other expenses related to the operation of NHS.

Section 6. Those members who have given written or verbal confirmation of attending any National Honor Society event must appear at the specified time, unless the adviser or chairpersons of the event are notified at least twenty-four hours in advance. **If the member cannot attend the given event due to an emergency, the member will meet with the advisor and/or the president to discuss the situation.** Those members who do not appear at the appointed time will be assigned service point to his/her required point total. This point must be fulfilled in the given time period in order for his/her membership to stay valid.

## **ARTICLE IX CHAPTER 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 shall return the emblem.

## **ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. Amendments may be made to the bylaws by bringing the proposed amendment(s) before executive council and advisor and be approved. At the next scheduled membership meeting, the proposed amendment(s) must be presented before the members by the acting president. Any member other than the president, must make a motion to bring the amendment(s) to the floor. Another member (not the president) must second the motion. After the second, any problems with the new amendment(s) may be addressed in an open discussion. If problems are found, the proposed amendment(s) must return to executive council, and the process must be repeated. All amendments must receive final approval by the faculty council.

Section 2: Upon the finish of discussion, the acting president will close the discussion. The proposed amendment(s) will then be voted on two weeks later at a regularly scheduled meeting, and will be put into effect by a two-thirds majority vote. All members will receive an amended copy, which will supersede those published prior to the changes.

Section 3: The Faculty Council will develop and revise, when necessary, all chapter procedures/ bylaws for selection, discipline, and dismissal of members, all of which must remain in compliance with this National Constitution and NHS policies. Amendments to the bylaws may be made by the NHS Faculty Council if deemed necessary by the advisor and or principal. Amendments must be accepted by the Faculty Council by majority vote. All members, advisor, and principal will receive an amended copy, which will supersede those published prior to the changes.