



National Honor Society



Little Miami High School Chapter Bylaws

rev. 5/16/19

Article I: Purpose

The Little Miami High School chapter of the National Honor Society seeks to inspire members to do their best in all areas of their life. We seek to exemplify scholarship and leadership, exhibit strong character, and be of service to our peers and the community at large.

Article II: Powers

1. This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the NHS National Constitution.
2. The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.
3. Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.

Article III: Membership

Membership in the National Honor Society is a privilege, not a right. Members are expected to participate in NHS activities and be active in the chapter's business. New members will be selected annually by a defined process and may be dismissed from the group for reasons in conflict with the principles of National Honor Society or with the bylaws.

An active member is one who:

1. Maintains the standards of the society: character, scholarship, leadership and service
2. Attends all meetings
3. Maintains a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher
4. Completes 10 or more hours of community service per semester

Article IV: Selection of Members

1. Students who have achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.5 unweighted (or 3.75 weighted) by the spring of their junior year will be invited to submit themselves for consideration to the faculty council.
2. Cumulative GPA 3.5 unweighted (or 3.75 weighted) will meet the scholarship tenet.
3. Thirty community service hours accrued since ninth grade will meet the service tenet.
4. An essay outlining two different leadership roles will meet the leadership tenet. Leadership is only valid since grade nine.
5. It will be for the faculty council to determine the extent to which the service and leadership accrued by the candidate meet the selection criteria.
6. The faculty council will be comprised of five voting members and the non-voting NHS adviser.

7. The identities of the members of the faculty council will remain protected from students and parents.
8. In accordance with the national NHS Constitution, there is no automatic right of appeal in the case of non-selection. As has been established by the courts and by precedent, NHS membership is a privilege extended by the faculty to students it deems to have met a set of criteria, not a right to which non-selected students are being denied.
9. Candidates who were not selected for membership will have another opportunity to be recognized the following year, provided a 3.5 GPA has been maintained at that time.
10. The faculty council will not consider leadership roles or service hours verified by a family member. All such must be independently verifiable.

Article V: Attendance

1. Attendance at all National Honor Society meetings is mandatory.
2. NHS members will attend no less than seven of the nine general meetings, plus whatever meetings may be deemed appropriate by the executive committee.
3. Absence from a meeting will be approved in advance by a faculty adviser except in the case of emergencies.
4. Members will be placed on probationary status and given written notice upon a second absence.
5. Members missing more than two general meetings will be recommended to the faculty council for dismissal from the chapter.
6. Participation in school sports teams, sporting events, or other school clubs does not supersede attendance requirements.
7. Meetings will begin promptly at 2:25. After 2:30 the door will be locked.
8. Valid attendance at general meetings will be defined as arrival not later than 5 minutes after the start of the meeting. Members who arrive late or leave early will be deemed to have been in non-attendance.

Article VI: Activities

1. Regular meetings of this chapter will be held monthly. Special meetings can be called by the president with the approval of the adviser.
2. The chapter shall determine one or more service projects for each year. All members shall regularly participate in these projects.
3. Each member has the responsibility for choosing and participating in service projects that reflect his or her particular talents and interests and is approved by the adviser.
4. The chapter shall publicize and promote its projects in a positive manner.
5. Annual dues for this chapter will be \$20 per year.

Article VII: Officers

1. The officers of this chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and historian.
2. Student officers shall be elected at the start of the school year. All members in good standing with the chapter are eligible to run for a position as an officer.
3. Voting will be by secret ballot. A majority vote shall be necessary to elect any officer. 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.
4. The president will preside over chapter meetings and serve as the official representative of the chapter at school and community functions.
5. The vice president will keep a record of members contributions to leadership and service, and preside in the absence of the president.

6. The secretary will keep the minutes and attendance records for all meetings and be responsible for all official correspondence.
7. The treasurer will keep the record of expenses, dues and all other financial transactions of the chapter.
8. The historian is responsible for keeping members informed about chapter meetings and events, publicizing and documenting group activities, and maintaining an archive of NHS work.

Article VIII: Discipline and Dismissal

1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, service, leadership, or character may be dismissed from the Little Miami 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 in their school and community.
2. If a member's cumulative GPA falls below the 3.5 unweighted/3.375 weighted standard in effect when he or she was selected, the member will be given a written warning and a reasonable time period for improvement. If the GPA remains below 3.5 at the end of the warning period, the student may be dismissed from the chapter. Grades will be checked at the end of each quarter.
3. Flagrant violations of criminal law or school regulations can result in the dismissal of a member. These violations include but are not limited to: DUI, stealing, assault/fighting, destruction of property, cheating, truancy, and possession, selling or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
4. All members are expected to provide ten community service hours per semester. Members should fill out and submit a log sheet to keep track of service by the end of each semester. Failure to take an active role can result in dismissal from the chapter.
5. In all cases of pending dismissal:
 - a. The member will receive written notification from the adviser indicating the reason for the consideration of dismissal. Copies of this correspondence will be sent to the parents, and a copy of the letter, including the date it was sent, will be maintained by the adviser.
 - b. In cases of pending dismissal, a chapter member has the right to be notified in writing of the offenses and to a hearing before the faculty council. This is the due process guaranteed to all chapter members under the NHS national constitution (Article X, Section 4).
 - c. The faculty council's decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards according to provisions of the school district's discipline policies.
6. A member who wishes to resign from the National Honor Society should submit a written statement that is dated and signed by both the student and his or her parent. A member who is dismissed or resigns may never again be considered for membership in the National Honor Society.