

National Honor Society- Horseheads Chapter

Constitution and By Laws

The purpose of the Horseheads High School chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) is to recognize students who exhibit excellence in the areas of **scholarship, service, leadership, and character** - both in school and outside of school. These students have taken a positive role in their school and community, while maintaining a high level of academic achievement.

Membership in the National Honor Society is both an honor and a responsibility. Students selected for membership are expected to continue to demonstrate the qualities of **scholarship, service, leadership, and character** by which they were selected. Failure to comply with any of the aforementioned obligations could, and is likely to, result in dismissal from the National Honor Society.

I. Responsibilities

- A. **Dues:** A payment of \$20 will be collected from each member at the mandatory fall NHS meeting. Your dues contribute to the NHS ceremony, graduation cords, NHS scholarships, service awards, and national membership.
- B. **Community Service:** Each member will fulfill a minimum of 8 hours of community service per school year. Dates of service must fall between July 1 and April 30th. Documentation of service hours is due in May (date will be announced and communicated via email). Service forms are available on the HHS NHS website. If you do not fulfill your community service requirement, your membership could be rescinded as outlined in the Violations & Consequences section below.
- C. **Chapter Fundraising:** In lieu of a fundraising project (in-person fundraising is not practical due to COVID-19 outbreak), our NHS Chapter requires a \$10 donation from each member. These donations contribute to graduation cords, NHS scholarships, service awards, and national membership dues. If a member cannot donate \$10 due to financial hardship, please contact the advisor. NOTE: fundraising policies are currently being investigated by the district, so this subject to change.
- D. **Community Fundraiser:** Each year our chapter completes a Spring Service Project that may involve fundraising for an organization such as the Children's Miracle Network or American Cancer Society. Alternatively, we may choose to design a local school project that benefits HHS in some lasting way. Participation is required for this Spring Service Project.
- E. **Meetings:** There are two (3) mandatory NHS meetings yearly. The first meeting is in the fall, the second is participation in the induction ceremony and the third meeting is in the spring. Legal absences from school are the only acceptable absences from mandatory meetings. **Due to the COVID-19 outbreak during the 2020-2021 school year, all meetings will be virtual and will be recorded if attendance is not possible at the actual meeting. Students are, however, expected to make their best effort to attend.**
- F. **Dates & Times:** It is the responsibility of each member to know the dates and times of all NHS activities and due dates. All dates and times will be given to members during the first NHS mandatory meeting in the fall. Further reminders of dates and times are not guaranteed after the fall meeting.

II. Scholarships for Senior Members

There are three scholarships for which seniors may apply during the spring semester of their senior year. Each senior is limited to applying for only one (1) scholarship. **Application is limited to members who have completed all service requirements and have received no letters of warning.** Scholarship information will be provided at the mandatory NHS meeting in March. Applications will be due in May.

III. Violations and Consequences

Each of the following infractions will result in a letter of warning. Any member receiving 2 letters of warning within a school year will have their membership status reviewed by the Faculty Council. Dismissal from the NHS may result.

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- A. If your average falls below 88%. (Failure to raise your average after two (2) consecutive marking periods will result in an additional letter of warning.)
- B. Any unexcused absence at the mandatory NHS meetings.
- C. Failure to contribute your \$15 donation in lieu of fundraising or participate in the Spring Service Project.
- D. Failure to pay your dues by the specified due date.
- E. Receiving three detentions or a conduct.

Each of the following infractions will result in automatic and immediate dismissal from the NHS. Dismissal from the NHS may be appealed through the principal.

- F. Receiving a fourth detention or second conduct.
- G. Suspension, expulsion, and/or arrest.
- H. **Failure to complete and submit community service hours.**

IV. Selection Requirements

- A. Juniors/Seniors with averages of ninety (90.0) or higher will receive a letter inviting them to apply for membership to the National Honor Society in August.
- B. Invitees will then have until the announced deadline to complete the student application form.
- C. The completed application forms and the student's academic information will then be passed to the Faculty Council for consideration for membership.
- D. Completion of the form does not guarantee admittance into NHS, and the process may be appealed through the chapter advisor and the principal for procedural and/or technical errors.

V. NHS Leadership

Advisor

Mrs. Darby Thompson

Faculty Council

4 HHS Faculty Members

Principal

Mrs. Kris Earl

Officers

Elected: President
Vice-President
Secretary

Appointed: Treasurer

HHS NHS Web address: sites.gstboces.org/nhs