

**BYLAWS OF THE FORT GIBSON HIGH SCHOOL CHAPTER
OF THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY
Effective September 2015**

Article I: Name and Purpose

Section 1: The name of this chapter shall be the Fort Gibson High School Chapter of the National Honor Society.

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 the students of Fort Gibson High School.

Article II: Membership

Section 1: Membership in this chapter shall be known as active, honorary, and graduate. Active members become graduate members at graduation. Graduate and honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 2: 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 3: Eligibility.

- a. Candidates eligible for election to this chapter must be members of the sophomore, junior, or senior class.
- b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of one trimester at Fort Gibson High School.
- c. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50 on a 4.0 scale, weighted. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum level of scholastic achievement for admission to candidacy. All students who can rise in scholarship to or above such standard may be admitted to candidacy for selection to membership. **Students must be in regular classes, not modified or assisted classes. (April 2016)**
- d. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and GPA standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character.

Article III. Selection of Members

Section 1: The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council consisting of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser/s shall be the sixth, nonvoting, ex-officio member of the Faculty Council. Prior to notification of any candidates, the chapter adviser/s shall review with the principal the results of the Faculty Council's deliberations.

Section 2: Prior to selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. Students who are eligible scholastically ("candidates") shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the Candidate Form for further consideration for selection.
- c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official evaluation form provided by the chapter adviser/s.
- d. The Faculty Council shall review the Candidate Form, disciplinary records, and faculty evaluations in order to determine membership.

Section 3: The selection of new active members shall be held once a year during the second trimester of the school year.

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 a letter indicating the status of his or her membership and signed by the principal or chapter adviser/s.

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 trimester to attain the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain his or her membership.

Article IV: Discipline and Dismissal

Section 1: Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service may be considered for dismissal from the Fort Gibson High School 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 to his or her school and community.

Section 2: If a member's cumulative GPA falls below 3.5 GPA, he or she will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement. If the cumulative GPA remains below standard at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council, which may include consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3: Violation of the law or school regulations can result in 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.

Section 4: Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absence, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive written warning notification. A conference may be requested by either party (Faculty Council, student, or parent) within 3 days. If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be dismissed.

Section 5: In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the adviser/s or Faculty Council. The member and adviser/s will discuss the written notification in a conference. Situations that involve flagrant violations of school rules or the law can warrant disciplinary action without a written warning although a hearing must still be held (see below).
- b. The member will be given the opportunity to respond to the charge against him or her at a hearing before the Faculty Council prior to the 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 in writing within 3 days. 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 reviewed by the principal and then, if confirmed, expressed in a letter sent to the student, parents, and principal. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser/s.
- d. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards through the school district discipline policy.
- e. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he or she is no longer a member and may never again be considered for membership in the National Honor Society.

Section 6: In lieu of dismissal, the Faculty Council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

Article V: Officers

Section 1: The officers of this chapter shall be: President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Parliamentarian, and Sergeant-at-arms.

Section 2: Student officers shall be elected in the March meeting of each school year. All returning active members, in good standing, are eligible to run for Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Parliamentarian, and Sergeant-at-arms. President-Elect must be a sophomore. The President-Elect automatically moves to President. All active members of the chapter are eligible to vote. Nominees for office must submit a petition of 10 member signatures. This petition must be submitted to the adviser/s the day before the election.

Section 3: A majority of votes cast shall be necessary to elect any officer of this chapter. 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. [Note: Plurality can be used to determine the outcome of elections as an alternative to a majority vote.]

Section 4: Candidates will assume duties of their new offices after the installation ceremony.

Section 5: It shall be the duty of the *president*: -To preside at the meetings for this chapter, -To be regular and prompt in attendance at both executive committee and regular meetings, -To call meetings-to order at the appointed time, -To keep order, -To recognize members, -To state motions, -To confine debate to the motion under discussion, -To put motions to vote and announce the results, -To decide points of order promptly, -The president-elect will preside when the president is absent or when called to the chair by the president.

Section 6: The *president-elect* shall: -Preside in the absence of the president. The president-elect shall be a sophomore in the year he/she is elected.

Section 7: The *secretary* shall: -Keep the minutes of meetings and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence, -Call the roll if required, -Call the meeting to order in the absence of the president and president-elect and to preside while a temporary chairman is elected.

Section 8: The *treasurer* shall: -To collect dues from each member at the designated meetings, -Keep the record of chapter expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter.

Section 9: The *parliamentarian* shall: -Help the president follow *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, -Help the secretary record motions and votes, -Keep the constitution and by-laws.

Section 10: The *historian* shall: -Keep a record of all functions of the society, -Prepare publicity as required by the organization.

Section 11: The *sergeant-at-arms* shall: -Keep order during meetings, -Help the secretary take roll.

Section 12: The chapter adviser/s may assign Committee Heads to assist officers in the fulfillment on their duties.

Section 13: Upon recommendation of the chapter adviser/s and approval of a majority of the Faculty Council, an officer may be removed from office for not fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of the office. An officer may be removed if he/she has warning in cases of school conduct code offenses.

Section 14: Replacement of any officer/committee head who has been dismissed, removed from office or left for any reason will be at the discretion of the Faculty Council/adviser/s/principal.

Article VI: Executive Committee

Section 1: The executive committee shall consist of the faculty adviser/s and the chapter officers.

Section 2: The executive committee shall have general charge of the meetings and the business of the chapter, but any action by the executive committee is subject to the review of the chapter members.

Article VII: Meetings

Section 1: Meetings of this chapter shall be monthly. At the beginning of the school year the dates, time and place will be posted.

Section 2: This chapter shall conduct its meetings according to *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Section 3: All chapter members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled chapter meetings.

Section 4: The members present at any duly announced meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article VIII: Activities

Section 1: The chapter shall determine one or more service projects for each year.

Section 2: All members should 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 an individual service project that reflects his or her particular talents and interests and as approved by the chapter adviser/s. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members should contribute. Service projects are those that are done for or on behalf of others (not including immediate family members) for which no compensation (monetary or credit) has been given.

Section 5: Members must earn a minimum of twenty (20) service points by the end of the school year.

Section 6: Five (5) of these service points may be earned through participation in NHS meetings.

Section 7: The chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.

Article IX: Emblem

Section 1: Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall have the privilege of wearing the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society.

Section 2: Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

Section 3: Chapter members who are seniors in good standing without warnings shall be granted the privilege of wearing the gold honor cords at graduation.

Article X: Dues

Section 1: Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$10.

Section 2: Dues will be payable to the chapter treasurer within 30 days of the first meeting of the school year.

Section 3: Dues are non-refundable should a member be dismissed from NHS for any reason.

Article XI: Scholarships and Bond Awards

Section 1: The chapter may submit nominations for the National Scholarship, for various in amounts. Senior members of NHS for one complete school year who are in good standing are eligible. The Faculty Council selects members who complete and submit the National Honor Society Scholarship Form. Their decision, which is final, is based upon the member’s service, scholarship, leadership, and character throughout his/her high school experience in the National Honor Society.

Section 2: Members write the chapter scholarship form. Senior members of NHS for one complete school year who are in good standing are eligible. The Faculty Council selects members who complete and submit the form. Their decision, which is final, is based upon the member’s service, scholarship, leadership, and character throughout his/her high school experience in the local NHS chapter.

Section 3: The Fort Gibson High School Chapter will award four members, juniors or seniors a check for \$25 to be used for \$50 savings bonds. Members in good standing and with at least one full year of membership who have been nominated in the March meeting by their fellow members are eligible. These bond awards will be for outstanding character, leadership, scholarship and service. The Faculty Council selects one member who completes and submits the Bond Award form for each of the four main qualities of NHS. Winners will not be NHS scholarship recipients, nor will they win more than one bond in a year. The adviser/s will eliminate any duplicate winner/s in the final tally.

Article XII: Powers

Section 1: The chapter adviser/s is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

Section 2: The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

Section 3: These bylaws are designed to amplify provisions of the national constitution and cannot contradict any components thereof. The chapter is obligated to adhere to the provisions of the national constitution in all activities it undertakes.

Article XIII: Amendments

Section 1: These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of chapter members present, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given to members at least one month prior to the vote. The exceptions are Articles II, III, and IV (selection and discipline), which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the principal.

Section 2: Bylaws and amendments must be consistent with the constitution of the National Honor Society.

Date: August 29, 2017 (Indicate the date of last approved revisions.)

Signature of Chapter president, Mikah Spyres

Signature of Chapter secretary, Sarah Kate Kolb

Signature of Chapter advisers, Lindsay Keeling and Kelli West

Signature of Chapter principal, Gary Sparks