

Heritage High School National Honor Society Constitution

ARTICLE I

Name and Purpose

Section 1 The name of the chapter shall be the Heritage High School Chapter of the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools, which appears as such on the charter granted in 2006 by the National Honor Society, duly signed by members of the National Council of the National Honor Society.

Section 2 The purpose of the chapter shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to tender service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in students of Heritage High School.

ARTICLE II

Membership

Section 1 Selection for membership shall be by a faculty council based upon scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Membership is both an honor and a responsibility. Once selected, it is the member's responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

Section 2 Membership shall be known as active and graduate. A graduate member has no vote. Candidates become active members when admitted in the fall then go are fully inducted at a special ceremony in the spring at HHS. Active members become graduate members upon graduation.

Section 3 To be eligible for selection to membership, the candidate must have been in attendance for period equivalent to one semester at Heritage High School (if you are a transfer student to Heritage please see Section 5).

Section 4 Members of the sophomore, junior and senior class are eligible for selection. Candidates must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.75. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum scholastic level of achievement for admission to candidacy. Freshman may apply in the spring and must have a minimum grade point average of 3.85. As returning members their sophomore –senior year they need to keep a 3.75 minimum gpa. All students who rise in scholarship to or above the standard

may be admitted to candidacy for selection to membership. Their eligibility shall then be considered on their character, leadership, and service.

Section 5 An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to Heritage High School will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter, upon receipt of membership acknowledgement from the previous school's principal or NHS Advisor.

Section 6 Upon request, an active member of this chapter who transfers from Heritage High School will be given a letter, indicating the status of his or her membership.

Section 7 To remain in good standing with the Heritage High School National Honor Society, active members must maintain at least a 3.75 GPA, have at least 10 hours of community service per school year, exhibit leadership in at least 2 different areas, and have NO discipline referrals at school or altercations within the community.

ARTICLE III

Selection of Members

Section 1 The selection of members of the National Honor Society shall be by application, the referral by two faculty members and approval by the NHS Council. The Faculty Evaluation Form will be provided to the entire Heritage High School faculty.

Section 2 Any Heritage High School student currently in the 10th, 11th or 12th grade may submit a candidacy application for membership in the National Honor Society. Discipline reports will be obtained before selection.

Section 3 The membership selection process shall be determined by the NHS Council based on GPA, faculty recommendations, service and discipline records, this includes attendance.

Section 4 The selection process shall take place during the fall and spring semesters to be followed by a formal induction ceremony in the spring. There will be only one selection period and induction ceremony each school year. Students nominated for induction must be present at the induction ceremony to become an active member.

ARTICLE IV

Dismissal

Section 1 A National Honor Society member must maintain the established standards and requirements for membership in order to retain membership. Any member who fails to maintain the standards and/or requirements shall receive a letter of warning.

Warning – A member will receive a letter of warning for the following offenses:

- A discipline referral
- Failure to attend monthly meetings or complete their service project

Probation – A member will receive a letter of probation for the following offenses:

- Falling below the scholastic average (a semester to recover)
 - Two warnings moves a member to the probationary level
- Dismissal – A member shall be dropped from NHS roll if:
- Fails to recover scholastic average after one semester
 - Receives a third warning
 - Suspension from school
 - Any civil violation that is school related, alcohol/drug related, or related to the destruction of property

Section 2 When a member is dismissed, the student must be notified in writing.

ARTICLE V

Officers

Section 1 The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and historian. All officers are responsible for attending all National

Honor Society meetings, officer meetings, and the induction ceremony, helping organize all NHS activities, making contacts with community members concerning service projects, reviewing submitted service project forms, and being available to help with special projects and activities which may arise.

Section 2 The current officers and NHS advisor will select the sophomore officers in the fall. The outgoing senior officers and the NHS advisor will select the new officers for the next school year. If more than thirty applications are received for an officer position, the current senior officers and advisor will select which candidates are interviewed.

Section 3 Returning members who remain in good standing are eligible for any office. An application for office must be submitted by the announced due date to be eligible.

Section 4 It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings of the chapter. The president is also responsible for announcements to be submitted to the advisor for approval.

Section 5 The vice-president shall fill the chair of the president in his absence. The vice- president maintains attendance records and writes articles for the newspaper.

Section 6 The secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings, and records of all business of NHS on file.

Section 7 The treasurer shall maintain the activity fund balance and consult with the advisor for accountability. The treasurer must also be active in the area of fundraising.

Section 8 The historian shall serve as chairperson of NHS archives and NHS scrapbook.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings

Section 1 The meetings of the chapter shall be held on days designated by the president and advisor.

Section 2 The officers of the chapter shall be selected in the spring.

Section 3 All meetings shall be open meetings.

Section 4 Members are required to attend each monthly meeting. If a member fails to attend two meetings in a row, the member will receive a warning letter and one additional hour of service.

ARTICLE VII

Activities

Section 1 The officers shall develop one or more service projects per semester. The projects are to be publicized in a positive manner.

Section 2 All members shall regularly participate in the chapter's service projects to be eligible to wear the NHS collar at graduation. Service project hours must be up to date and completed by December 1st (or the first meeting after December 1st) of the fall semester and by March 15th for seniors in the spring and May 1st (or the first meeting after May 1st) of the spring semester. Each year of membership, twenty service hours are required for a member to remain and graduate in good standing.

Section 3 All members are required to fulfill half of the required hours within an NHS sponsored activity.

Section 4 All members shall participate annually in an Individual Service Project of the member's choice. Members must provide documentation of the hours. Hours that are considered eligible for credit are those that benefit the school or the community at large.

ARTICLE VIII

National Honor Society Emblem

Section 1 Each member of the chapter shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools.

Section 2 Any member, who is under a letter of warning at the time of graduation, will not be entitled to wear the NHS collar at graduation. Any member who resigns or is dismissed from the chapter will return the membership card.

Section 3 Each member agrees that whether the emblem comes to a member as a gift, a personal purchase, an award, or from whatever source, the title of the emblem will rest with the chapter of which he is a member. The chapter council can, therefore, by a majority vote, request that any member return his emblem.

Section 4 All insignia must be procured from the national secretary of the National Honor Society, 1904 Association Drive, Reston, Virginia 22091.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the chapter provided the proposed amendment has been approved by the majority vote of the officers and advisor of the chapter.