

Chapter Bylaws
Of the
Parkston Chapter
Of the
National Honor Society

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this chapter shall be the Parkston Chapter of the National Honor Society.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

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 students of Parkston High School.

ARTICLE III: POWERS

Section 1: This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the National Constitution of NHS.

Section 2: Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. 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 2. Eligibility:

- a. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be members of the sophomore, junior, or senior class.
- b. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.25
- c. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and GPA standards, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character.

ARTICLE V: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council which consists of five faculty members appointed by the principal.

Section 2. The selection of active members shall be held once a year.

Section 3. Prior to the final selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.

- b. All students who are eligible scholastically (i.e., candidates) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the application form for further consideration.
- c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official evaluation form provided by the chapter adviser.
- d. The Faculty Council shall review the Candidate Forms, faculty evaluations and other relevant information to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership.

Section 4. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

ARTICLE VI: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the **privilege** of wearing the honor cords at graduation.

Members have the responsibility to continuously demonstrate outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service.

ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings of the chapter, and serve as the official representative of the chapter at school and community functions.

Section 3. The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president and shall also keep a record of members' contributions to leadership and service.

Section 4. The secretary shall keep the minutes and attendance records for meetings and be responsible for all official correspondence.

Section 5. The treasurer shall keep the record of business expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter.

ARTICLE VIII: ACTIVITIES

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

Section 2. All members shall regularly participate in these projects.

Section 3. Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in an individual service project which reflects his or her particular talents and interests and as approved by the chapter adviser. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute.

ARTICLE IX: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL of MEMBERS

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the Parkston chapter of the National Honor Society. A member of the National Honor Society is expected to maintain his/her academic standing and take an active role in service and leadership to his/her school and community.

Section 2. If a member's cumulative grade point average falls below the standard in effect when he/she was selected, he /she will be given a written warning and a reasonable time period for improvement. If the cumulative grade point average remains below standard at the end of the warning period the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council that includes consideration of dismissal from the chapter, except that in the case of flagrant violation of school rules or the law, a member does not have to be warned.

Section 3. Flagrant violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member. These flagrant 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 or in the community.

Section 4. Chapter officers, as representatives of the chapter, can be removed from their positions as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the Faculty Council.

Section 5. In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive **written notification** from the adviser/Faculty Council indicating the reason for consideration of dismissal.
- b. The member has the **right** to respond to the charge(s) against him/her. The member has the opportunity to present his/her defense either in person **OR** via a written statement presented to the advisers who will pass the statements to the Faculty Council. 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 presented to the principal for review, and then stated in a letter sent to the student and parents. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser.
- d. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards according to provisions of the school district discipline policies.
- e. A member who is dismissed or resigns, are never again eligible 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 X: RATIFICATION, APPROVAL, and REVIEW.

Section 1: These bylaws will be **approved** upon receiving a two-thirds affirmative vote of all active members of the chapter, a majority affirmative vote of the Faculty Council, and approval by the administration.

Section 2: These bylaws shall be reviewed and if necessary, revised within five years from the date of approval noted on this document.

ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended by a 2/3rds vote of the chapter. The exceptions are Articles V and IX, which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the principal (selection and discipline).

Last revised April of 2019. Ratified by Membership in August of 2019