



Chapter Bylaws
of the
Marion Chapter
of the
National Honor Society
Adopted: May 2017

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this chapter shall be the Marion Chapter of the National Honor Society of Newman Central Catholic High School.

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 Newman Central Catholic High School.

ARTICLE III: POWERS

Section 1: This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the National Constitution of NHS. See www.nhs.us/constitutions. In addition, this chapter will maintain active affiliation with the national organization on an annual basis.

Section 2: The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

Section 3: Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.

Section 4: This chapter of NHS maintains policies and practices that are designed to prevent discrimination against any qualified candidate or member on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, and disability. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all practices, including the chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members.



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

Section 3: Eligibility:

- a. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be members of the junior or senior class.
- b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been enrolled for a period equivalent to one semester at Newman Central Catholic High School.
- c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- d. 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. The chapter adviser shall be the sixth, nonvoting, *ex officio* member of the faculty council.

Section 2: The selection of active members shall be held once a year during the first semester of the school 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 candidate information form and letter of recommendation for further consideration.
- c. All faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official input form provided by the chapter adviser.
- d. The faculty council shall review the candidate information forms, faculty input, and other relevant information to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership.
- e. The faculty council will meet to further discuss students who have been flagged with three no's or issues by the faculty.
- f. The faculty council will make the final decision as to whether a student will gain membership—full, conditional, or honorary.

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 an official letter indicating the status of his/her membership.



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 semester to attain the membership requirements of this chapter and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements in order to retain his/her membership.

ARTICLE VI: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Section 1: Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall be entitled to wear 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 shall be granted the privilege of wearing the honor cords at graduation.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1: Meetings will be held on as needed basis.

Section 2: Members are expected to attend all chapter meetings.

ARTICLE VIII: ACTIVITIES

Section 1: The chapter shall complete one service project per semester.

Section 2: All members shall 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 participate in service opportunities in the school and community. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute and should be outside of service hours completed as part of another school sponsored club or organization.

Section 5: The chapter shall publicize and promote its projects in a positive manner.



ARTICLE IX: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL of MEMBERS

Section 1: Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, service, leadership, or character may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the Marion 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, 3.5, 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.

Section 3: Violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member. These violations include, but are not limited to DUI, 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: Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply to dress code, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive written warning notification. A conference may be requested by either party (faculty council or student/parent). If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal.

Section 5: If a member goes in front of the disciplinary board, the chapter advisor and faculty council will be notified and the member may be considered for dismissal from National Honor Society.

Section 6: 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 at a **hearing** before the faculty council prior to any 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 via a written statement presented in lieu of the face-to-face hearing. Following the hearing, 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 may never again be considered for membership in the National Honor Society.

Section 7: In lieu of dismissal, the faculty council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.



Approved on May 18, 2017

Kathleen Howard
Principal

Lisa Cook
Chapter Advisor