

# East Juniata NHS Bylaws 2016-2017 School Year

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## **Article I – Name and Purpose**

- **Section 1–** The name of this chapter shall be the Scholarian Chapter of the National Honor Society of East Juniata High School.
- **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 East Juniata 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 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 semester at East Juniata High School.
  - c. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.50 (90.1%). 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.
  - d. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and GPA standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered base on their service, leadership, and character.
  - e. Eligible candidates must compose an essay which explains how he/she demonstrates service, leadership and character.

### Article III – Selection of Members

- **Section 1–** The selection of members to this chapter shall be a majority vote of the Faculty Council consisting of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter advisor shall be the sixth, nonvoting, ex officio member of the Faculty Council.
- **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 a Candidate Application for further consideration for selection.
  - c. The candidate’s teachers 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 Application and faculty evaluations in order to determine membership.
- **Section 3–** The selection of new active members shall be held once a year during the first marking period of the school year.
- **Section 4–** Candidates become members when introduced at a special ceremony.
- **Section 5–** Once selected and inducted, all members are expected to maintain the standards by which they were selected and maintain all obligations of membership.
- **Section 6–** An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school shall be given a letter indicating the status of his or her membership and signed by the principal or chapter adviser.
- **Section 7–** 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 and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain his or her membership.
- **Section 8–** Cyber school students shall meet the same requirements as all the other students.

## 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 Scholarian 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 the standard in effect when he or she was selected (minimum cumulative GPA of 3.50), he or she will be given a written warning, required to write a 500 word essay, and will be given a marking period for improvement. Additionally any student on probation is not permitted to run for an officer position. 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 for dismissal from the chapter.
- **Section 3**– If a member fails to perform any of the published obligations of membership, including the payment of dues, he or she will be given a written warning, required to write a 500 word essay, and will be given a making period for improvement. Additionally any student on probation is not permitted to run for an officer position. If the obligation remains unmet at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council, which may include dismissal from the chapter.
- **Section 4**– Violation of the law or school regulations can result in 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.
- **Section 5**– Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, excessive tardiness, or other offenses stated in the student handbook) will receive a written warning notification. A conference may be requested by either party (Faculty Council, student, or parent). If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal.
- **Section 6** – Any conduct unbecoming of an officer will grounds for immediate dismissal from the officer position. The student in question will also be put on probation for one marking period. If a

second infraction occurs while the student is on probation, he or she must appear before the faculty council who will determine the student's future in NHS.

- **Section 7** – In all cases of pending dismissal:
  - a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the adviser or Faculty Council. The member and adviser 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 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 advisor.
  - 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 not be reconsidered for membership in the National Honor Society again.
  
- **Section 8**– 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 the chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.
  
- **Section 2** – Student officers shall be elected at the last meeting of each school year. All returning active members are eligible to run for a position as an officer. All active members of the chapter are eligible to vote.
  
- **Section 3** – A majority vote shall be necessary to elect any officer of this chapter. If the first vote does not yield a majority, a second shall not be taken of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes. The following duties should reflect the responsibilities developed for officers in the local chapter.

- **Section 4** – It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings for this chapter.
- **Section 5** – 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 6** – The secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence.
- **Section 7**– The treasurer shall keep the record of chapter expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter.

## **Article VI – Chapter Leadership**

- **Section 1** – The executive committee shall consist of the faculty adviser 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 member.
- **Section 3** – All members will be responsible to complete twenty community service hours to the community within Juniata County (**this is not school related**). Community hours include any unpaid activities that benefit the community, not just one person. (ie. Babysitting for a family does not count for community hours, however running the nursery during a church service does as it brings benefit to a larger group). **Community hours cannot be related to any school activities.**
- **Section 4** – All members will be responsible to complete ten community service hours within the school building. Tutorial hours will only count for half of the school building hours.
- **Section 5** – It is the responsibility of each member to prove that they have completed sections 3 and 4 of this article. Due dates will be set by executive council and announced in the fourth marking period. Failure to meet deadlines will be recorded and will result in probationary action.

## Article VII – Meetings

- **Section 1** – Meetings of this chapter shall be monthly.
- **Section 2** – This chapter shall conduct meetings according to *Roberts Rules of Order*.
- **Section 3** – All chapter members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled chapter meetings, the second Tuesday of every month. After two missed meetings, probationary action will be taken. Arriving at the meeting after the designated start time will count as a missed meeting.
- **Section 4**- Cyber school students shall also meet these regulations. Exemption will only be considered with approval of advisors and president after a formal request is submitted.

## 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** – 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 will 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, projects to which all members contribute. Can be used for the 20 hours of out of school community service hours.
- **Section 5** – 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 shall be granted the privilege of wearing the honor cords or other insignia adopted at the local level at graduation.

#### **Article X – Powers**

- **Section 1** – The chapter advisor 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 XI – Amendments**

- **Section 1** – These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the chapter, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given to members at least one month prior to the vote. The exceptions are Articles 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.

Amended on May 26, 2016

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President                      Makenzie McDonald

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Vice-President

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Secretary

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Treasurer                      Ashley Gibson