

Bylaws for the John B. Connally Chapter of the National Honor Society

I. Selection and Induction

- A. Candidates shall have spent at least a full semester at CHS prior to their selection and must be members of the junior or senior classes with a minimum grade point average of 3.25 on a 4.0 unweighted scale. Prospective candidates must complete and return an application by the posted deadline in October to be eligible for further consideration.
- B. Academically-qualified candidates shall be evaluated in the areas of service, leadership, and character in the fall. The selection of each member of the chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Advisory Council. The FAC consists of five faculty members appointed on a rotating basis by the principal to elect membership, set policy, review bylaws, rule on appeals, and dismiss members.
- C. Final admission to membership shall be by ritualistic public induction in the fall. Members in good standing shall be recognized at commencement by wearing the National Honor Society stole and special mention in the program.
- D. Nondiscrimination: Our chapter of NHS maintains policies and practices that are designed to prevent discrimination against any qualified candidate or member on the basis of race, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, economic status, and disability. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all practices, including the chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members.
- E. A student will not be considered for or maintained in NHS if he/she has major discipline infraction(s) during the high school years, including but not limited to truancy, endangering others, cheating on school work, or flagrant violations of school or civil law.
- F. In the event that a candidate has spent any amount of time assigned to in school suspension, I.S.S., that candidate does have the ability to appeal in order to explain and give reasons why they should still be considered for membership. The appeal will be considered by the Faculty Advisory Council and the principal and a determination will be made concerning the candidate's ability to move forward in the induction process.

II. Membership Responsibilities

- A. Regular attendance at meetings and induction is required.
- B. A onetime \$15 dues payment for National Honor Society membership is to be paid to the treasurer.
- C. Meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of the month in the cafeteria, unless otherwise noted.
- D. (In accordance with the bylaws) Failure to attend meetings and induction without approval from the Advisor(s) may result in probation or impending dismissal from a chapter. In particular, when a student incurs his/her first unexcused absence from a chapter meeting, he/she will be issued a warning note. After the second unexcused absence, the student will be issued an impending dismissal notice from NHS. After the third unexcused absence, the student will be dismissed from NHS. Clarification of absences:
 1. Excused
 - a. Written notice to Advisor or NHS officer one day in advance of legitimate school absence or written notice to Advisor or NHS officer the day the member returns from absence.
 - b. A written note provided the day student returns from an unplanned illness (following school guidelines)
 - c. Sponsored excused extracurricular activity. For regularly scheduled practices for in-season sports or other seasonal activities, a letter signed by the sponsor of the activity, listing the members involved will be accepted. If the regularly scheduled practice is not held, members are expected to attend the NHS meeting.
 - d. Members who must miss a meeting because of a regularly scheduled class at another educational institution, such as ACC, must submit an excuse form within 24 hours of the first absence. The form will excuse subsequent absences due to the class. If the class does not meet for any reason on an NHS meeting day, the member is expected to attend the NHS meeting.
 2. Unexcused
 - a. Jobs
 - b. Failure to notify Advisor(s) in accordance with guidelines above.
- E. Members will follow school rules during NHS meetings. Members observed by the advisor or other school staff member to be out of conformance with school rules may be asked to leave the meeting and will be given

an unexcused absence. A member out of conformance with school rules while in the building for an NHS meeting may be given an unexcused absence even if the meeting is adjourned.

- F. Students must maintain an 85 average each grading period. (Not cumulative, but actual academic average.)
- G. The FAC has determined that only one period of probation will be permitted for academic improvement during a student's membership in the Connally Chapter of NHS. When a student's average falls below the required 85, he/she will be warned in writing and placed on probation for one semester. If the student's GPA falls below 85 in any other grading period, the student will be dismissed and must return the certificate and pin and may not regain membership in the future.
- H. Each member will report eight hours of approved and verified individual service per year and two hours of a group service project per year. When the group hour requirement is met, additional group hours may count as individual hours. Members may not count volunteer hours that are part of a volunteer requirement for another organization. When a member has satisfied the volunteer requirements for another organization, further volunteer hours may be credited toward the NHS individual volunteer requirement. **Students who sign up for a volunteer opportunity and fail to attend will lose the number of hours they would have gained.**
- I. Each member will provide verification of preparation and participation in a UIL-sanctioned event or other inter-school competition each year. Members may receive credit for preparation for and participation in any school sanctioned event that is a competition between schools and in which members have an opportunity to bring credit and recognition by name to Connally High School. Members will not receive credit for indirect participation in events, such as participation as an athletic trainer or equipment manager.

III. Officer Election/Responsibilities

- A. New officer election will take place yearly at the April meeting with elected positions being: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian, and Communications Officer. Only junior members are eligible to vote in new officer elections. Election will be conducted by secret ballot and the candidate with the most votes for office will win. The ballot will give members an opportunity to rank candidates in order of preference. If and only if there is a tie, then the winner will be the candidate who was the 2nd choice of the most members. If there is another tie, then the 3rd choice will determine and so on. Votes will be counted by the current officers in the presence of the Advisor.
- B. Basic officer duties include: setup fall/spring volunteer events, organize/run inductions, keep up with membership documentation, prepare scrapbook, etc.
- C. Specific officer duties include:
 - 1. President - Responsible for organizing and facilitating officer meetings and member meetings
 - 2. Vice-President - Responsible for assisting the president and serving in his/her place if necessary and tracking member attendance at meetings.
 - 3. Secretary – Responsible for tracking members' hours
 - 4. Treasurer – Responsible for collecting funds and dues.
 - 5. Historian – Responsible for documenting club activities.
 - 6. Communications Officer – Responsible for publicizing club events and activities.
- D. Rising senior officers will assume responsibilities in May, including conducting the May meeting.

IV. Changes to the Bylaws

- A. Changes to the bylaws may be proposed by the Faculty Advisor, by the school administration, by members of the Faculty Advisory Council, or by current NHS officers.
- B. Changes to the bylaws will be enacted by majority vote of the Faculty Advisory Council.
- C. In addition to enactment by the FAC, changes to volunteer requirements must be approved by a 2/3 majority vote of all eligible members.

Signature

Printed Name

Date