

BYLAWS OF THE BELLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CHAPTER  
OF THE  
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

**Article I**

**Name and Purpose**

Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be the Bellville High School Chapter of the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools.

Section 2. The purpose of this chapter shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools.

**Article II**

**Selection of Members**

Section 1. To be eligible for membership the candidate must be in the second semester of 10th grade or an 11th grader. A candidate must have been in attendance at Bellville High School the equivalent of one semester.

Section 2. Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.75 or above (without rounding). Students who meet the grade level and GPA requirements will then be considered candidates for membership to NHS.

Section 3. Student discipline records and teacher evaluations are weighed heavily in the membership selection process. Students who have received a discipline punishment of I.B.S., out of school suspension, or DAEP will not be eligible for membership. The complete discipline record for all membership candidates will be reviewed. Discipline infractions that result in Saturday detentions will be reviewed on a case by case basis for potential new members. Infractions involving plagiarism, cheating and academic dishonesty are considered major discipline violations, regardless of the school discipline consequence. All teachers will be asked to complete an evaluation form for students that they have taught who are eligible for membership. Teachers will rate the candidates' leadership, character, and service. This information shall be used by the Faculty Council to assist in its selection process.

Section 4. To maintain membership, students must participate in at least two-extra-curricular areas each year of their high school career. Areas include athletics, fine arts, UIL academic events, and student activity clubs.

Section 5. The selection of members to the Bellville High School Chapter of the National Honor Society shall be by a majority vote of the five-member Faculty Council.

Section 6. The Faculty Council shall require the completion of the Acceptance Form, and shall assume that a candidate who does not return this form by the due date is not interested in being considered for membership. Late forms will not be accepted.

Section 7. Any high school discipline infraction prior to NHS candidacy will be reviewed by faculty council and could result in probationary status or denial of membership for the potential candidate.

Section 8. No student will be denied membership based on race, color, sex, disability, national origin, religion, or family status.

Section 9. Students are to understand that membership in the National Honor Society is a privilege, not a right; since participation in the organization is a privilege; it may be extended or withdrawn at the school district's discretion.

### **Bylaw III** **Dismissal of Members**

Section 1. The Faculty Council in compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Honor Society shall determine the procedure for dismissal. A written description of the dismissal procedure shall be available to interested parties.

Section 2. Members who fall below the standards which were the basis for their selection shall be promptly warned in writing (with possible probationary action by the Faculty Council) by the chapter adviser if they commit the following offenses:

- Failure to maintain the cumulative grade point average (GPA) under which they were selected. Members will have one semester to correct the grade point average.
- Failure to abide by school rules as stated in the school handbook.
- Failure to participate in the chapter service project
- Failure to complete the two extra-curricular activities and return the Extra-Curricular Participation Agreement Form.
- Failure to participate in any activity which the chapter deems appropriate.
- Failure to maintain the high ideals of leadership, service, and character.
- Absence from two N.H.S. meetings during the school year without good cause.
  - A tardy is defined as "after the end of roll call." Two (2) tardies will equal one absence. However, two (2) extra service hours made up prior to the next meeting will nullify an absence due to tardies. These two (2) hours are in addition to the 20 required hours, and will be assigned by the faculty advisers.

**Serious infractions, especially regarding school discipline or academic dishonesty will prompt immediate review by Faculty Council for possible probation or even dismissal. In cases of flagrant violation of school rules or civic laws, a member does not necessarily have to be warned, and may be immediately considered for dismissal by the Faculty Council.**

Section 3. A member is allowed only one written warning during his membership.

Section 4. In all cases of impending dismissal, a member shall have a right to a hearing before the Faculty Council.

Section 5. For purposes of dismissal, a majority vote of the Faculty Council is required.

Section 6. A member who has been dismissed may appeal the decision of the Faculty Council under the same rule for disciplinary appeals in the school district.

**Bylaw IV**  
**Chapter Officers**

Section 1. The officers of this chapter shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a reporter.

Section 2. The officers shall be selected by a majority vote at the April meeting. Graduating seniors may not vote. These officers will be installed at the May meeting and will serve the chapter the following school year.

Section 3. The president shall plan the agenda and preside at the meetings of the chapter. The president shall also represent the chapter in any outside activities.

Section 4. The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president and shall be the head of the project committee.

Section 5. The secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings, a record of all business, and all records on file. The secretary shall carry on correspondence. The secretary shall also keep a record of members' attendance at meetings.

Section 6. The treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of all money due and received by the chapter and will give such funds to the chapter adviser for deposit in the school activity fund. The treasurer shall keep a record of the receipts and disbursements of the chapter in accordance with school regulations.

Section 7. The reporter shall report all activities of the chapter, when appropriate, to the local news media.

**Bylaw V**  
**Meetings**

Section 1. The regular meetings of this chapter shall be held as needed during the school on days designated by the adviser and approved by the principal. Any member not in attendance when "new business" is read is officially absent from the meetings.

Section 2. This chapter will meet once a month on a Friday at 8am unless otherwise designated.

Section 3. The president may call special meetings, approved by the executive committee and adviser.

Section 4. The chapter shall conduct its meetings according to ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, NEWLY REVISED in all points not expressly provided for in the constitution.

Section 5. Any member not present at the completion of roll call will be counted tardy.

## **Bylaw VI**

### **Activities**

Section 1. The chapter shall determine its yearly service project(s) as proposed by the executive committee.

Section 2. Each member must complete 20 hours of service for each school year. Current members may count hours completed during the summer before their senior year, not to exceed 10 hours.

Section 3. No single event can count for more than 10 service hours.

Section 4. Each member must complete 2 school related service opportunity during each semester. (2 during the fall semester and 2 during the spring semester)

Section 5. Each member may be required to bring items to chapter sponsored school events. (faculty luncheons) Members may opt out of the contribution to faculty luncheons by donating \$20 at the beginning of the school year.

## **Bylaw VII**

### **Dues**

Section 1. The annual chapter dues for each member shall be \$20.00, which will include a chapter shirt. This amount shall be subject to the approval of the executive committee of the chapter.

Section 2. Members shall pay dues at their first meeting of each school year. Failure to pay dues by that time will result in a written warning, followed by dismissal if dues are not paid by the second meeting.

## **Bylaw VII**

### **Amendments**

Section 1. The Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the Faculty Council.