

BYLAWS
OF THE SIRIUS CHAPTER OF THE
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY
OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS

ARTICLE I.

Name and Purpose

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the National Honor Society Sirius Chapter of Oak Creek High School.

ARTICLE II.

Object

Section 1. The object of the Sirius Chapter of the NHS shall be consistent with that outlined in the Constitution of the National Honor Society, i.e. "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 III.

Membership

Section 1. Students who have completed either their third or fifth semester (middle of sophomore /junior year) may become eligible for membership.

Section 2. The minimum cumulative GPA is 3.700 (not rounded).

Section 3. Admitted on Probationary Status

In rare instances, a student may be admitted on a probationary status. The student must abide by all NHS guidelines for a period of 6 months from the start of the school year. The student may not miss any meetings, must honor all commitments made to NHS, and complete the required service hours. The student must also abide by all school rules including the honor code.

If a student has no infractions after the 6 month period, the probationary status will be removed from their membership.

ARTICLE IV.

Dismissal

Section 1. If a member falls below the 3.700 OCHS GPA, the member will have one quarter to bring the cumulative GPA back up to a 3.700 or the member will be removed from NHS. (GPA's are NOT rounded.) If the member is a senior and falls below the 3.700 at the end of the 1st semester, he/she will have the 3rd quarter to bring it up. If it is not at 3.700 by the end of the 3rd quarter, the senior will be dismissed. Seniors finishing their last semester without a cumulative 3.700 will also be dismissed and not wear the cowl or cords at graduation. A member is placed on probation for the quarter when their OCHS GPA falls below the cumulative 3.700.

Section 2. The Chapter Advisor will notify a member via email if the member has failed to complete the service hours required. If this member is a junior and at the end of the school year has less than 20 hours completed by the due date, this member will receive a dismissal letter. If this member is a senior, this member will be dismissed and not wear a cowl or receive cords at graduation. See Article XI for additional service hours guidelines.

Section 3. If a NHS member is placed in the discipline room, the member will be given a written warning. If the above happens again, the member will be removed from NHS.

Section 4. If a NHS member is suspended or expelled from school the member will be dismissed from NHS.

Section 5. Members who fall below the standards which were the basis for their selection shall be promptly warned in writing by the chapter adviser and given a reasonable amount of time to correct the deficiency, except that in the case of flagrant violation of school rules, civil laws, or violation of the activity code in which a member does not necessarily have to be warned.

Section 6. The Faculty Council shall determine when an individual has exceeded a reasonable number of warnings.

Section 7. Any member who accumulates three unexcused absences from meetings from the time of induction to the time of graduation (missed meetings accumulate from year to year) will be removed from National Honor Society. (This includes all NHS general meetings, mandatory activities, and volunteer activities the member registered for. It does not include committee meetings, except for executive committee.) The NHS advisor will notify the member via email after the second unexcused meeting absence and when a dismissal is issued. Members are excused from a meeting ONLY if they are absent from the entire school day.

Section 8. Any member who is dismissed from NHS may appeal the decision in the timeframe stated in the dismissal letter. This is done by submitting a letter of explanation/reason for the violation of by-laws to the advisor, who will forward the letter to the faculty council. A dismissal hearing will be scheduled and the appeal is presented to the faculty council for review and action. The decision of the faculty council is final.

ARTICLE V

Chapter Officers

Section 1. There shall be five officers elected by the chapter membership during the month of April/May. The officers shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer/Historian, and Public Relations. The following is the procedure for officer election: The April/May meeting shall have officer nominations. Any member may be self nominated or nominated by a member other than him/herself. A ballot listing all persons who wish to become an officer shall be readied for the election, which will be held at the meeting. All ties shall be voted on in another meeting.

Section 2. A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to elect any chapter officer.

ARTICLE VI

Executive Committee

Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of five officers of the chapter and the chapter advisor.

Section 2. The executive committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its business meetings, make recommendations to the chapter, and determine and perform such other duties as assigned by the advisors. All actions and recommendations of the executive committee shall be subject to the review of the chapter membership.

Section 3. The executive committee shall have the responsibility for ensuring that chapter activities and procedures follow school policy and regulations.

ARTICLE VII.

Meetings

Section 1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (five officers). This committee shall meet every first Thursday of each month from June to May (or a date determined by the advisor). At these meetings, the agenda for the next chapter meeting shall be established.

Section 2. CHAPTER MEETINGS. Chapter meetings shall be held at 7:00am or a time to be determined every second Thursday of each month for 30 minutes from May through the following May (unless the school calendar does not allow for it and an alternate date will be scheduled).

Section 3. The President, with the approval of the executive council, shall have the power to call a special meeting of the NHS at any time. A meeting will also be called upon the written request of fifteen members of the society. Except in cases of emergency, at least three days notice shall be given for any regular meeting.

Section 4. One half of the society shall constitute a quorum in matters of regular motions.

Section 5. The President shall only vote at chapter meetings in the case of a tie.

Section 6. Any member who accumulates three unexcused absences from Induction to graduation will be removed from the National Honor Society (This includes all NHS general meetings, mandatory activities, and registered volunteer activities. It does not include committee meetings, except for executive committee.) The NHS advisor will notify the member in writing after the second unexcused meeting absence.

ARTICLE VIII.

Activities

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

Section 2. All members must participate in these projects. Members not participating in the service project will be dismissed.

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. All members are expected to actively participate in the functioning of this chapter and service project(s). Failure to do so will result in dismissal by action of the Faculty Council.

ARTICLE IX.

Official Insignia

Section 1. This organization shall have an official emblem selected by the National Council. The emblem shall be uniform.

Section 2. The distribution of the emblem and the rules for its use shall be under the exclusive control of the National Council.

Section 3. Each active, graduate, or honorary member shall be entitled to wear this emblem.

Section 4. Any member who resigns or is dismissed shall return the emblem to the chapter advisor.

Section 5. The motto of the National Honor Society shall be Noblesse Oblige.

Section 6. The official colors of the National Honor Society shall be blue and gold.

Section 7. A Graduate member may replace a lost emblem by verifying membership to the national office.

ARTICLE X.

Amendments

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the chapter with a 2/3 affirmative vote, provided the amendments have been submitted in writing to the executive council in advance. In some cases, a unanimous executive board decision may amend the bylaws. All amendments must get final approval by the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District Board of Education.

ARTICLE XI.

Service Requirements

Section 1. 20 hours of service is required of all NHS members. 15 hours of the 20 hours must be from NHS sponsored events. A member needs to participate in a minimum of 4 different NHS service opportunities. By the end of the first quarter, 5 hours must be completed. By the end of the first semester, 10 hours must be completed; by the end of third quarter, 15 hours must be completed; and by June 1, all 20 must be completed. Members not meeting the service hours deadlines, will receive a probation letter for the first deadline missed and a dismissal letter for a second deadline missed. Deadline not met at the end of the year will result in dismissal.

Section 2. Each member must turn in a service hour sheet to document his or her hours that is signed by the adult (not own parent) in charge. At NHS events, members **MUST** sign in and out to earn the hours. Failure to sign in or out may result in not receiving credit for those hours.

Section 3. The service hours requirement shall not be enforced until the member's first full semester in NHS. (Members are inducted in April/May, service hours requirements start the following September.) Service hours from the summer after induction may be used for the member's first semester.

Section 4. The Chapter Advisor will notify a member via email if the member has failed to complete the service hours required. If this member is a senior, this member will not wear a cowl or receive cords at graduation.

Section 5. No service hours may be earned if the NHS member is paid for the service performed or is required to perform the hours for a class or another organization. **No service hours may be earned if the member is doing service for a club/sport that he/she is a member of.**

Section 6. Service hour totals will be kept track of by the Chapter Advisor. Spreadsheets will be posted on google classroom

Section 7. Any questions regarding the system or a particular requirement shall be submitted to the executive committee for review.

Article XII

Probation

Section 1: A member placed on probation must abide by all membership rules. The member may not miss any meetings (this includes volunteer activities signed up for), must complete all service hour requirements, maintain the minimum OCHS GPA, and must have no disciplinary actions of any kind. If the probation guidelines are not met, the member shall

be dismissed. A member may not be placed on probation more than once during their membership. A second offense would result in a dismissal.