

# Chapter Bylaws of the Freeport High School Chapter of National Honor Society

*Revised and Approved - 2011/2012 Cummins  
Updated - 2012/2013 Cummins*

*Updated - 2013/2014 Eberle  
Revised and Approved – 2014/2015 Eberle*

## **ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of this chapter shall be the Freeport High School Chapter of National Honor Society

## **ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

The purpose of this chapter will be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop the character of students at Freeport High School.

## **ARTICLE III: POWERS**

*Section 1* - This chapter operates under full compliance with the National Constitution of NHS.

*Section 2* - This chapter will remain an active member of the state association by paying annual dues

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

*Section 4* - 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, color, ancestry, national origin, gender, and disability. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to the selection and dismissal process of members as well.

## **ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA**

*Section 1* – Members of National Honor Society will demonstrate outstanding scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

*Section 2* – Eligible candidates must be Sophomores, Juniors, or Seniors

*Section 3* – To be eligible for selection, the candidate must be actively enrolled at Freeport High School for at least one semester

*Section 4* – SCHOLARSHIP. Candidates eligible shall have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5

*Section 5* – LEADERSHIP. According to the National Honor Society standards, the student who exercises leadership:

- Is resourceful in proposing new problems, applying principles and making suggestions
- Demonstrates initiative in promoting school activities
- Exercises influence on peers in upholding school ideals
- Successfully holds school offices or positions of responsibility; conducts business effectively and efficiently; and demonstrates reliability and dependability
- Is a leader at work and in school or community activities
- Is thoroughly dependable in any responsibility accepted

Examples of leadership include but are not limited to:

- Officer of an activity or organization
- Editor of a publication
- Team captain, coach, or manager
- Crew chief or production manager in a drama or musical production
- Camp counselor

*Section 6* – SERVICE. The National Honor Society standards require that a student:

- Volunteers and provides dependable and well organized assistance, is gladly available, and is willing to sacrifice to offer assistance

- Works well with others and is willing to take on difficult or inconspicuous responsibilities
- Cheerfully and enthusiastically renders any requested service to the school
- Can take place outside of school such as: Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, youth groups, volunteer services for the aged, poor, or disadvantaged.
- Shows courtesy by assisting visitors, teachers, and students.

*Section 7* – CHARACTER. Each eligible student will be evaluated by the faculty selection committee according to the National Honor Society standards for good character, which state the student of character:

- Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously
- Consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior (cheerfulness, friendliness, poise, stability)
- Upholds principles of morality and ethics
- Cooperates by complying with school regulations concerning property, programs, office, halls, etc.
- Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty and reliability.
- Shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others; observes instructions and rules

## **ARTICLE V - SELECTION OF MEMBERS**

*Section 1* - The selection of members to this organization will be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council which consists of five faculty members. The Chapter Advisor shall be the sixth non-voting member of the committee.

*Section 2* - The selection of members shall take place once per year, during the second semester of the school year.

*Section 3* - Prior to final selection, the following must occur:

- a. All students eligible scholastically shall be notified and informed of the application process
- b. The faculty committee shall evaluate the students based on their scholarship, leadership, service, and character using an official evaluation form provided by the Chapter Advisor.
- c. The committee shall review student evaluation forms and faculty references to determine who meets the requirements to become members.

*Section 4* - Candidates become members at a special induction ceremony

*Section 5* - An active member of National Honor Society who transfers to Freeport High School shall automatically be accepted into this chapter upon proof of acceptance at their former school.

## **ARTICLE VI - OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS**

*Section 1* - Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$15

*Section 2* - Chapter members who are seniors and in good standing will be granted the privilege of wearing the honor cords at graduation.

## **ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS**

*Section 1* - Officer positions of this chapter shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

*Section 2* - Student officers will be selected at the last meeting of each school year by a student voting process.

*Section 3* - Voting shall be by secret ballot. A majority vote will be necessary to elect any officer position.

*Section 4* - It is the duty of the President to preside over chapter meetings, and serve as the official representative for the Freeport Chapter at school and community functions.

*Section 5* - The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President and shall keep records of members' service and scholarship.

*Section 6* - The Secretary shall keep minutes and attendance records.

*Section 7* - The Treasurer shall record all financial transactions of the chapter.

### **ARTICLE - VIII - MEETINGS**

*Section 1* - Regular meetings of this chapter shall occur once or twice monthly

*Section 2* - Members are expected to attend a majority of regular meetings

*Section 3* - Special meetings or student committee meetings may be called by the chapter president

### **ARTICLE IX - ACTIVITIES**

*Section 1* - The chapter shall determine one or more service projects per year

*Section 2* - Members shall contribute to a majority of the service projects

*Section 3* - These activities shall fulfill the needs of the community or school, be well-planned, have the support of the principal, and be well-executed

*Section 4* - Each member shall have the opportunity to participate in individual community service projects.

*Section 5* - This chapter will promote service projects in a positive way

### **ARTICLE X - DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL OF MEMBERS**

*Section 1* - Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, service, and character may be considered for dismissal or discipline of the Freeport High School chapter.

*Section 2* - If a member's cumulative grade point average falls below the expected standard, they will receive a written warning and a period of time to make improvement. If no improvement is made, the subject will be considered for dismissal by the faculty council.

*Section 3* - Violations of law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration for dismissal by the faculty council.

*Section 4* - Offenders of the school conduct code will receive a written warning.

*Section 5* - In all cases pending dismissal

a. the member will receive a written warning.

b. the member has the right to a hearing by the faculty council

c. the results of the faculty council majority vote will be presented to the principal for review

d. A dismissed member may appeal to the building principal

e. A dismissed member must be notified by mail along with their parents. A member who is dismissed may never be considered for acceptance into National Honor Society again.

*Section 6* - In lieu of dismissal, the faculty council may impose disciplinary actions deemed appropriate.

### **ARTICLE XI - RATIFICATION, APPROVAL, AND REVIEW**

*Section 1* - These bylaws have been approved with a majority affirmative vote by chapter officers

*Section 2* - These bylaws may be reviewed and amended by the chapter advisor yearly

### **ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS**

*Section 1* - Amendments may be added with a majority affirmative vote by chapter members

*Section 2* - Article V and Article VI may not be amended.

Advisor - Whitney Eberle  
Co-Advisor - Lois Bollman

President – Mackenzie McElfresh  
Vice President – Katie Rodriguez Whalen

Secretary – Jasmine Hinds

Treasurer – Kurt Rodriguez Whalen