



## **Pleasanton High School National Honor Society Constitution**

### **ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE**

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Pleasanton High School National Honor Society.

Section 2. The purpose of this organization 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 Pleasanton High School.

### **ARTICLE II: THE CHAPTER ADVISER**

Section 1. The chapter adviser shall be responsible for the direct, day-to-day supervision of the chapter and act as liaison between faculty, administration, students, and community.

Section 2. The chapter adviser shall maintain files on membership, chapter history, activities, and financial transactions. The chapter adviser shall send the annual report to the national office.

Section 3. The chapter adviser shall regularly review each member for compliance with Society standards and obligations.

Section 4. The chapter adviser shall help the chapter officers understand and carry out their duties.

Section 5. The chapter adviser shall be an ex-officio, non-voting, sixth member of the Faculty Council.

Section 6. The chapter adviser shall be a member of the faculty, appointed annually by the principal, and may serve consecutive terms.



### **ARTICLE III: FACULTY COUNCIL**

Section 1. The Faculty Council shall consist of five voting faculty members appointed annually by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be an ex-officio, non-voting, sixth member of the Faculty Council. No principal or assistant principal may be included on the Faculty Council.

Section 2. The term of the Faculty Council shall be one year. Members may be appointed to consecutive terms.

Section 3. The Faculty Council shall meet at least once a year to review the procedures of the chapter, select members, and to consider non-selection, dismissal, other disciplinary actions, and warning cases.

Section 4. The Faculty Council will develop and revise, when necessary, all chapter procedures for selection, discipline, and dismissal of members, all of which must remain in compliance with this Constitution and NHS policies.

### **ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Membership in local chapters is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by Faculty Council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

Section 2. Membership shall be known as active, honorary, and graduate. Active members shall become graduate members at graduation. Graduate members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 3. The Faculty Council shall reserve the right to award honorary membership to school officials, principals, teachers, NHS advisers, adults, students with disabilities, or foreign exchange students in recognition of



achievement and/or outstanding service rendered to the school in keeping with the purposes of the National Honor Society. Honorary members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 4. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

Section 5. Members who are seniors in good standing are eligible to be nominated by their chapters to compete in the National Honor Society Scholarship Program.

Section 6. An NHS member who transfers to another school and brings a letter from the principal or chapter adviser to the new school adviser shall be accepted automatically as a member in the new school's chapter. Transfer members must meet the new chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership.

Section 7. Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.

Section 8. Eligibility:

- a. Candidates eligible for election to this chapter must be members of the Sophomore (2<sup>nd</sup> semester), Junior, or Senior class.
- b. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 4.0 out of a 4.0 (90+) this scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum 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.

- c. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and GPA standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character.

#### **ARTICLE V: SELECTION OF MEMBERS**

Section 1. The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council consisting of five faculty members appointed by the Principal. This chapter adviser shall be the sixth, non-voting, 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 the Student Activity Information Form for further consideration for selection.
- c. The faculty 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 Student Activity Information Form and faculty evaluations in order to determine membership.

#### **ARTICLE VI: CHAPTER OFFICERS**

Section 1. The Officers of this chapter shall be President, Vice-President,



Secretary, Treasurer and Chaplain.

Section 2: Student Officers shall be elected at the last meeting of each school year. All active returning members are eligible to run for positions 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 vote shall be taken of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Section 4: It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of this chapter.

Section 5: The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President and shall keep a record of members' contributions to leadership and service.

Section 6: The Secretary shall keep minutes of meetings and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence.

Section 7: The Treasurer shall keep record of chapter expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter.

#### **ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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

Section 2. The executive committee shall have general charge of the meetings and the business chapter, but any action by the executive committee is subject to review of the chapter members.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS**



Section 1. Meetings of this chapter shall be the second Wednesday of each month.

Section 2: This chapter shall conduct its meetings according to Roberts Rules of Order.

Section 3: All chapter members are expected to attend regularly scheduled chapter meetings.

#### **ARTICLE IX: ACTIVITIES**

Section 1. Each 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; 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. This is in addition to the chapter a project to which all members contribute.

Section 5. Each chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.

#### **ARTICLE X: POWERS**

Section 1. The chapter adviser 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.

## **XI: AMENDMENTS**

Section 1: These bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the chapter, provided notice of the proposed amendments has been given to the members as least one month prior to the vote. The exceptions are Articles V and XII (Selection and Discipline), which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the Principal.

Section 2: By-laws and amendments must be consistent with the Constitution of the National Honor Society.

Section 3: The selection of new, active, members shall be held once per year in the spring semester or twice by special induction during the fall semester for juniors and seniors only as approved by the Principal.

Section 4: Candidates become new members when inducted at a special ceremony.

Section 5: An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating his/her membership.

Section 6: 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 membership requirements and thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter to retain his/her membership.

## **ARTICLE XII: DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL**

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service may be dismissed from the Pleasanton Chapter. A member of the National Honor Society is expected to maintain his/her academic standing and take an active role in service and leadership to his/her school and community.

Section 2. If a members cumulative grade point average falls below the standard in effect when he/she was selected (3.50) he/she will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement. If the cumulative grade point average remains below the standard at the end of the warning period the student will be subject to further discipline action by the faculty council that may include dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3: Violation of the law or school regulations can result in dismissal of a member. These violations include but are not limited to, DWI, stealing, destruction of property, cheating, truancy, possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school related activities.

Section 4: Offenders of the School Code of Conduct (such as profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc) will receive a written notification. A conference with the Principal may be requested by either party, be it Faculty Council, student, or parent. If the member is involved with another violation of the school code of conduct, the member may be dismissed.





Section 5. In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the adviser/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/her at a hearing before the Faculty Council prior to the vote on dismissal (in accordance with the Due process identified in Article X of the National Constitution). The member has the opportunity to present his/her defense either in person or by writing. The Faculty Council will then vote on whether to dismiss. A majority vote of the Faculty Council is needed to dismiss a member.
- c. The results of the Faculty Council vote will be reviewed by the Principal, and then confirmed, expressed in a letter sent to the student, parents, and Faculty Council. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser.
- d. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the Principal and afterwards through the Districts discipline policy.
- e. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he/she is no longer a member and may never again be considered for membership in the National Honor Society.

Section 6: In lieu of dismissal, the Faculty Council may impose disciplinary



sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

A member shall have a right to a hearing before the Faculty Council. *(Note: This hearing is required and is considered "due process" for all members – Ed.)*

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 to the principal.

Section 7. NASSP shall hear no appeals in dismissal cases. *(Note: Refer to Article VIII, Section 7 regarding the permanent consequences for members when dismissed.)*