

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY®

Chapter By-laws

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be the Denton Calvary Academy Chapter of the National Honor Society®.

Section 2. The purpose of this chapter shall be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and to encourage the development of character in students of Denton Calvary Academy.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be known as active and graduate. Active members become graduate members at graduation. Graduate members have no vote in chapter affairs.

Section 2. Membership in this chapter is an honor bestowed upon deserving students by the faculty, and shall be based on the criteria of Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character.

Section 3. Eligibility:

- a. Candidates eligible for election to this chapter must be members of the sophomore, junior, or senior class.
- b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of one full semester at Denton Calvary Academy.
- c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative average of 92 on a 100-point scale. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum scholastic level of achievement for admissions to candidacy. All students who can rise in scholarship to or above such standard may be admitted to *candidacy* for selection to membership.
- d. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have minimum cumulative community service hours of 30 by January of their sophomore year, 55 by January of their junior year, and 85 by January of their senior year, or 20% more than the minimum required of other students at DCA.
- e. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, GPA, and community service standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered based on their leadership, and character.

ARTICLE III: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. The selection of members to this chapter shall be by majority vote of the Faculty Council consisting of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The 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 and community service records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic and service eligibility.
- b. Students who are eligible scholastically and have completed the required community service hours ("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 advisor.
- d. The Faculty Council shall review the Student Activity Information Form and faculty evaluations in order to determine membership.

Section 3. The selection of new, active members shall be held once a year during the second semester of the school year.

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

Section 5. Upon request, an active member of the National Honor Society® who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of his/her membership and signed by the Principal.

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 the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain his/her membership.

ARTICLE IV: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service may be dismissed from the Denton Calvary Academy chapter of the National Honor Society®. 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 member's cumulative average falls below the standard in effect when he/she was selected (92), he/she will be given a written warning and a period of one semester to bring his/her cumulative average to a 92 or above. If the cumulative average remains below standard at the end of the warning period the student will be subject to further disciplinary 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, or possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at any time. Offenders of the Student Expectations under the Student Code of Conduct in the current year of the Denton Calvary Academy Parent/Student Handbook (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absence, excessive tardiness, etc) will receive written warning notification.

Section 4. In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reasons for possible dismissal from the advisor/Faculty Council. The member and adviser may 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.
- 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 due process identified in Article X of the National Constitution.) The member has the opportunity to present his/her defense either in person or in writing. The Faculty Council will then vote on whether to dismiss. A majority vote of the Faculty Council is needed to dismiss any member.
- c. The results of the Faculty Council vote will be reviewed by the principal, and then if confirmed, expressed in a letter sent to the student, parents, and principal. 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 school's discipline policy.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

Section 2. Student officers shall be elected at the first meeting after the induction of new members. All returning members are eligible to run for a position as an officer. New officers will assume their position during the last meeting of the school year.

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 for this chapter.

Section 5. The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president and shall also keep a record of members' contributions to leadership and service.

Section 6. The secretary shall take attendance at the meetings, keep the minutes of meetings, and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence.

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

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

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

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings of this chapter shall be held monthly.

Section 2. This chapter shall conduct its meetings according to *Robert's Rules of Order*.

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

ARTICLE VIII: ACTIVITIES

Section 1. The 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, and be well-planned, organized, and executed.

Section 4. Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in an individual service project which reflects his or her particular talents and interests and as approved by the chapter adviser. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute.

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

ARTICLE IX: EMBLEM

Section 1. Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall have the privilege of wearing the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society®.

Section 2. Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

Section 3. Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the insignia or honor cords at graduation.

ARTICLE X: DUES

Section 1. Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$10.

Section 2. Dues will be payable to the chapter treasurer at the first meeting of the next school year.

ARTICLE XI: 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.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the chapter, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given to members at least one month prior to vote. The exceptions are Articles III and IV (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®.

[Ratified by the Denton Calvary Academy NHS Faculty Council on January 23, 2008. Revised on January 21, 2015.]

Date:

Signatures: _____, Chapter President

_____, Secretary

_____, Adviser

_____, Principal