



**Chapter Bylaws
of the
Neapolitan Chapter
of the
National Honor Society**
Adopted: 2016

Article I: Name

The name of this chapter shall be the Neapolitan Chapter of the National Honor Society of Naples Central School District.

Article II: Purpose

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 Naples Central School District.

Article III: Powers

Section 1: This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the National Constitution of NHS. See www.nhs.us/constitutions. In addition, this chapter will maintain active affiliation with the national organization on an annual basis.

Section 2: The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

Section 4: Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.

Section 5: Nondiscrimination. 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, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, and disability. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all practices, including the chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members.

Article IV: Membership

Section 1: 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 2: Membership in this chapter shall be known as active, honorary, and graduate. Active members become graduate members at graduation. Alumni and honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 3: Eligibility:

- a. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be members of the junior or senior class.
- b. To be eligible for selection, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of one semester (twenty weeks) at Naples Central School District.
- c. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative GPA of 90%. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum level of scholastic achievement for admission to candidacy.
- d. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and GPA standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character.

Section 4: Candidates become members when inducted at the spring induction ceremony.

Section 5: An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given an official letter indicating the status of 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 the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain his/her membership.

Article V: Selection of Members

Section 1: The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the faculty council, which consists of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter advisor shall be a sixth, non-voting, *ex officio* member of the faculty council.

Section 2: The selection of active members shall be held once a year during the second semester of the school year.

Section 3: Prior to final selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' cumulative GPA shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. All students who are eligible scholastically (i.e. candidates) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the "candidate form" for further consideration.
- c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official input form provided by the chapter advisor.
- d. The faculty council shall review the "candidate form," along with any other verifiable information about each candidate. Candidates receiving a majority vote of the faculty council will be inducted into the Chapter.

- e. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and GPA standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character. See *Appendix A* for more details.

Section 4: Non-selection:

- a. Students who are not selected for membership in the National Honor Society shall be notified of their non-selection by the chapter advisor. Specific reasons need not be given; however, the faculty council shall provide general statements as to which value (scholarship, character, leadership, or service) the student was deficient in.
- b. If a student believes that there has been a technical mistake in his or her “candidate form,” the student has ten days to submit a formal letter to the school principal requesting that the form be reviewed. The student is the only person who can appeal the decision. Parents cannot appeal the decision. In this letter, the student must provide a concrete reason for the review.
- c. An appeal will be denied for the following reasons:
 - i. The student would like additional information to be considered that was not in the original “candidate form.”
 - ii. The student is not the person appealing the decision.
 - iii. The appeal is based on another student’s acceptance.
 - iv. The appeal is presented in a disrespectful manner.
- d. The principal shall hear all appeals from non-selected students. Following a discussion with the student, if the principal feels that a technical or procedural error has been made, the principal may ask the faculty council to reconvene to review the situation.
- e. The decision of the faculty council is final.

Section 5: Once selected and inducted, all members are expected to maintain the standards by which they were selected and maintain all obligations of membership.

Article VI: Obligations of Members

Section 1: Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall be entitled to wear 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 honor cords.

ARTICLE VII: 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 of each school year. All returning active members in good standing with the chapter are eligible

to run for a position as an officer. All active members of the chapter are eligible to vote.

Section 3: It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings for this chapter. The president is also responsible for writing and reading the speech for the induction ceremony.

Section 4: The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president.

Section 5: The secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence.

Section 6: The treasurer shall keep the record of chapter expenses and all other financial transactions of the chapter

ARTICLE VIII: Meetings

Section 1: Meetings of this chapter shall be held before all major activities or as needed.

Section 2: Meetings will be announced in advance and agendas will be provided to each member.

Section 3: Members are expected to attend all regularly-scheduled chapter meetings.

ARTICLE IX: 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: The chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.

Article X: Discipline and Dismissal

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

Section 2: If a member's cumulative GPA falls below the standard in effect when he/she was selected (90%), he/she will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement. If the cumulative GPA remains below standard at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the faculty council, which may include consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3: If a member fails to perform any of the obligations of membership, he or she will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement. If the obligation remains unmet at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the faculty council, which may include dismissal from the chapter.

Section 4: 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, plagiarism, truancy, or possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities or in the community.

Section 5: Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive a written warning notification. If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be dismissed.

Section 6: Chapter officers, as representatives of the chapter, can be removed from their positions as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the faculty council.

Section 7: In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the advisor/faculty council. The member and advisor will discuss the written notification in a conference. Situations that involve flagrant violations of a school rule or the law can warrant disciplinary action without a written warning although a review must still be held.
- b. The member has the right to respond to the charge(s) against him/her at a hearing before the faculty council prior to any 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 via a written statement presented in lieu of the face-to-face hearing. Following the hearing, 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 advisor.
- d. The faculty council's decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards through the school district discipline policies.
- 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 8: In lieu of dismissal, the faculty council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

Article XI: Ratification, Approval, and Review

Section 1: These bylaws will be approved upon receiving a two-thirds affirmative vote of all active members of the chapter, a majority affirmative vote of the faculty council, and approval by the administration.

Section 2: These bylaws shall be reviewed and if necessary, revised within five years from the date of approval noted on this document.

Article XII: Amendments

Section 1: These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the chapter, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given to members at least one month prior to the vote. The exceptions are Articles V and X (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.

Original Publication Date: 2007

Updated: April 2016

Approved on April 27, 2016

Signatures:


Chapter President


Advisor


Chapter Secretary


Principal

APPENDIX A
NAPLES CENTRAL SCHOOL
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Criteria for rating students for membership in National Honor Society

Scholarship Average:

Candidates must have a cumulative GPA of 90% or above

1. Character:

Industrious
Conscientious
Pride in work
Class participation: offers to contribute
Positively constructive in comments or suggestions
Strives to use good written and spoken English
Originality and initiative
Seeks additional help
Seriousness of purpose
Gets work done on time as a rule and reports to teacher without prodding if incomplete
Meets responsibilities of the school and teachers
High standards of reliability and honesty
Exemplifies high standards of personality-such as respect for others, cheerfulness, neatness, poise, stability, fair play, etc.
Upholds principles of morality and ethics
Well adjusted, mature, good values, emotionally stable

2. Leadership:

Successfully holds office and meets responsibilities
Demonstrates leadership in class or organization work
Exemplifies qualities and attitudes of influencing others for their good; has concern for others
Shows qualities of initiative and dependability
Works well with others and gets others to work well together

3. Service:

Shows willingness to render service to school, class, activities, and community
Willingly does committee or staff work
Willingly assists visitors, teachers, and fellow students
Willingness to represent school in various competitions

