



Chapter Bylaws
of the
Montclair High School Chapter
of the
National Honor Society
Adopted: 2018-2019 Academic Year

ARTICLE I: NAME

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

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 Montclair High School.

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 advisors is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

Section 3: Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal. [For reference, see Article V, Section 1 of the National Constitution.]

Section 4: 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.



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 alumni. Active members become alumni 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 to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been enrolled for a period equivalent to one marking period at Montclair High School.
- c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.9 on a 5.0 scale. Students are notified in their junior year if their GPA from freshman and sophomore year qualifies. Senior students can only apply based on this GPA; not their end of junior year GPA.
- d. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and GPA standards, 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 which consists of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter advisors shall be the sixth and seventh, nonvoting, *ex officio* members 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.

If students are denied membership by the faculty council, based on their application, the appeals process is a re-application process conducted in the fall of students' senior year. This re-application process is only for students who originally qualified for eligibility in their junior year and were not accepted into the chapter.

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

- a. Students' academic records 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 information 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 information forms, faculty input, and other relevant information to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership.
- e. Students will be required to show examples of school/community service, school/community leadership, and submit an essay on a theme associated with the four pillars of National Honor Society (character, scholarship, leadership, and service). The essay must demonstrate how one of these pillars relates to the student, using clear examples and evidence.



Section 4. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony and after paying their National Honor Society dues.

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 via email and family address.

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 VI: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$10. Dues will be payable to the chapter at least 30 days before induction.

Section 2. Students are required to attend the induction ceremony to complete the start of their membership. Participation is mandatory. Failure to do so, without prior notification of an excused absence, will result in repeal of application decision.

Section 3. Each member will be required to complete 10 hours of community service hours each year (junior & senior) along with an additional 2 hours of tutoring. This is a total of 20 community service hours and 2 tutoring hours that must be fulfilled by the end of April in their senior year.

Section 4. 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 5. Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

Section 6. Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the **privilege** of wearing the honor stole at graduation. These stoles will be sold to members in good standing for no more than \$20 (dependent on cost of stole).

ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president, parliamentarian, and secretaries.



Section 2. Student officers shall be elected at the 2nd meeting of each school year. Members in good standing with the chapter are eligible to run for a position as an officer. Any active member can nominate an eligible member as a candidate for office.

Section 3. Voting shall be by secret ballot. 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 the chapter, and serve as the official representative of the chapter at school and community functions.

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 keep the minutes and attendance records for meetings and be responsible for all official correspondence.

Section 7. The parliamentarian shall help conduct the flow of the meeting and record any unanswered questions for the good of the chapter.

Section 8. Officers and the faculty advisor(s) shall collectively be known as the chapter's executive committee. The executive committee shall establish annual goals for the chapter and 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 VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings of this chapter shall be monthly. Special meetings can be called by the president with approval of the advisor.

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

Section 3. Members are expected to attend all chapter meetings. Students who are absent or must miss a meeting should check Google Classroom for pertinent information and see one of the advisors upon return.

ARTICLE IX: ACTIVITIES

Section 1. The chapter will conduct in tutoring as their service project for the Montclair community.

Section 2. All members shall regularly participate in tutoring throughout the year.

Section 3. Tutoring should be organized and recorded by the member. Tutoring cannot be completed with family members; friends must be approved by NHS advisors. Students should check the Google Classroom for tutoring opportunities and be prepared to submit these hours with their community service by April of their senior year.



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 advisor for community service. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute.

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

ARTICLE X: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL of MEMBERS

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, service, leadership, or character may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the Montclair High School 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 grade point average falls below the standard in effect when he/she was selected **3.9**, he /she will be given a written warning and a reasonable time period for improvement. If the cumulative grade point 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 includes consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3. Violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member (see Section 5 below). 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 school or school-related activities or in the community.

Section 4. Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive written warning notification. A conference may be requested by either party (faculty council or student/parent). If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal.

Section 5. 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 6. In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive **written notification** from the advisor/faculty council indicating the reason for consideration of dismissal.
- 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 presented to the principal for review, and the results will be stated in a letter sent to the student and parents. 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 according to provisions of the school district discipline policies.
- e. A member who is dismissed or resigns may never again be considered for membership in the National Honor Society.

Section 7. 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 officers 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

These bylaws 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 the vote. The exceptions are Articles IV, V, and X, which are developed by the faculty council with the approval of the principal.

Approved on December 13, 2018

Advisors:

Jessica Buel

Samantha Leschak

Principal:

Anthony Grosso