



National Junior Honor Society Charter

Holy Spirit Preparatory School

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1--The name of this chapter shall be the Holy Spirit Preparatory School Chapter.

Section 2--The purpose of this chapter shall be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote community involvement, and to encourage the development of character in students of Holy Spirit Preparatory School.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1--Membership in this chapter shall be known as active. Membership in the National Junior Honor Society does NOT automatically transfer into membership in the National Honor Society.

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, community involvement, and character.

Section 3--Eligibility

a. Candidates eligible for election to this chapter must be members of the seventh, eighth, or ninth grade.

b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of one semester at Holy Spirit Preparatory School.

c. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.75 (out of 4.0). This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum level of scholastic achievement for admission.

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

e. Service – Candidates must fulfill their service hour requirements for admission.

f. Community – Candidates must either hold a leadership position in a House, Sea Cadets, sports activity, club or participate in at least **two** extracurricular activities associated with or sponsored by Holy Spirit Preparatory.

g. Character – Candidates must be of good and moral character and may not have committed any infractions as defined in Article IV.

ARTICLE III: 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. The chapter adviser shall be the sixth, nonvoting, 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.

Section 3--The selection of new active members shall be held once a year during the second semester of the school year. For 2009, candidates will be considered for membership at the end of the second quarter of the 2008-2009 school year. Seventh Graders will be considered based on cumulative GPA at the end of the first semester of their first year. Eighth and ninth Graders will be considered based upon cumulative GPA at Holy Spirit Preparatory.

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

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.

Section 6--An active member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of his or her membership and signed by the principal or chapter adviser.

Section 7--An active member of the National Junior 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 or her membership.

ARTICLE IV: 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 Holy Spirit Preparatory School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. A member of the National Junior 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 or she was selected (3.75), he or 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 published 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 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. Additionally, the student must not be found guilty of any Honor Code violations, and not have more than two In School Suspensions (ISS).

Section 5--Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, unexcused absence, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive written warning notification and given sufficient time to improve. 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 6--In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the adviser or 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 or her at a hearing before the Faculty Council prior to the vote on dismissal. 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 to the President.
- e. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he or she is no longer a member and may not be reconsidered for membership in the National Junior Honor Society.

Section 7--In lieu of dismissal, the Faculty Council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1--The executive committee shall consist of the faculty adviser and the elected class officers for each class of Junior Honor Society members.

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 monthly, but may be more frequent if special business needs to be discussed.

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

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

Section 4 – National Junior Honor Society executive committee members shall be granted admittance to one *National Honor Society* meeting for observational purposes.

ARTICLE VIII: ACTIVITIES

Section 1--The chapter shall give consideration to the service projects which are undertaken by the school.

Section 2--All members must meet the service hour requirements already established.

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 that reflects his or her particular talents and interests.

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 Junior Honor Society. Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

ARTICLE X: DUES

Section 1--Annual dues for this chapter and its members shall be paid for by Holy Spirit Preparatory School.

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 and President.

Section 2--The principal and President 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 bylaws 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 III and IV (selection and discipline), which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the principal.

Section 2--Bylaws and amendments must be consistent with the constitution of the National Junior Honor Society. Additional articles can be added as needed. It is often convenient to have the last article dealing with amendments.

Latest Approved Revision:

Signatures:

President

Principal

Chapter Advisor