**Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities**

**NHS Bylaws**

Chapter Bylaws

of the

Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities Chapter

of the

National Honor Society

Adopted: September 15, 2021

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this chapter shall be the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities Chapter of the National Honor Society of the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities.

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 integrity and character in students of the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities.

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](http://www.nhs.us/constitutions). In addition, this chapter will maintain active annual affiliation with the national organization.

Section 2: This chapter will remain an active member of the National Honor Society by paying annual dues and, when possible, participating in official functions.

Section 3. 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. [For reference, see Article V, Section 1 of the National Constitution.]

Section 5: Nondiscrimination. Our chapter of NHS maintains policies and practices that are designed to prevent discrimination against any qualified candidate or NHS member on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, and disability. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all practices, including chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members. Ball State University aspires to be a university that attracts and retains a diverse faculty, staff, and student body. We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome, and we value the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse as expressed in our Beneficence Pledge and through university resources found at [http://cms.bsu.edu/campuslife/multiculturalcenter](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fcms.bsu.edu%2Fcampuslife%2Fmulticulturalcenter&data=02%7C01%7Cccnorton%40bsu.edu%7Cabefa286bbe84b51de4a08d674da32ca%7C6fff909f07dc40da9e30fd7549c0f494%7C0%7C0%7C636824877840874877&sdata=VG7HEQRc9UTSV6iN68xAIDSKCTsSvmG1hdKbEs8PJi4%3D&reserved=0).”

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 “alumni.” Active members become alumni members at graduation. Alumni and honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 3. Eligibility:

Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be members of the sophomore, junior or senior class.

1. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been enrolled for a period equivalent to one semester at the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities.
2. Candidates eligible for election to this chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.80 on a 4.33 Honor’s scale.
3. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and GPA standards, candidates shall then be considered based upon their service, leadership, and character.

ARTICLE V: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. The selection of members to this chapter shall be by majority vote of the faculty council, which consists of five faculty members appointed by the Director of Academic Affairs. The chapter adviser shall be the sixth, nonvoting, *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.

a. There will be a one-time fall selection for seniors only at the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities during the 2022-2023 school year.

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

a. Students’ academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.

b. Students’ academic and residential records will be reviewed to determine integrity and character eligibility.

c. The selection committee shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be eligible using the official input form provided by the chapter adviser.

d. The selection committee shall review the candidate information forms, faculty input, and other relevant information to determine those candidates who fully meet the selection criteria for membership.

Section 4. Candidates become official members after induction at a special 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 their 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, the member must maintain the requirements for this chapter to retain his/her membership.

# ARTICLE VI: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Section 1. This chapter will not require annual dues.

Section 2. Each member of this chapter in good standing shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society.

Section 3. Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

Section 4. Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the **privilege** of wearing the honor cords at graduation.

Section 5. Chapter members must maintain a 3.80 on a 4.33 Honor’s Scale GPA and may not fall below a 3.50 GPA at any time during the school year. If a member does fall below a 3.50 GPA, see Section 10.

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 last meeting of each school year. All *returning* members in good standing with the chapter are eligible to run for an officer position. Any active member can nominate an eligible member as a candidate for office.

a. After the induction ceremony in the fall of the 2021-2022 school year, officers will be selected for the school year. Officer terms will end when new members are selected at the end of the school year.

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 for 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 to 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 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 treasurer shall keep the record of business expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter.

Section 8. Vacancies.

1. If, for any reason, the president, secretary, and/or treasurer are no longer members of this chapter of NHS, the vice president will take over those duties until a special election. The election must take place within thirty days of the first meeting following the vacancy.

1. If, for any reason, the vice president is no longer a member of this chapter of NHS, the secretary will take over those duties until a special election. The election must take place within thirty days of the first meeting following the vacancy.

Section 9. Officers and the faculty adviser(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. 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 weekly. Special meetings can be called by the president with approval of the adviser.

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.

ARTICLE IX: ACTIVITIES

Section 1. The chapter shall determine one service project for each year for the group and one individual (or pair) project. These service hours may also be used for the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities’ community service requirement.

Section 2. All members shall regularly participate in these projects.

Section 3. These projects shall have the following characteristics: they fulfill a need within the school or community; they have the support of the administration and the faculty; they are appropriate and educationally defensible; and they are well planned, organized, and executed.

Section 4. Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in an individual service project that reflects their particular talents and interests (as approved by the chapter adviser and 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 Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities chapter of the National Honor Society. A member of the National Honor Society is expected to maintain their academic standing and take an active role in service and leadership to the school and community.

Section 2. If a member’s cumulative grade point average falls below 3.50 on a 4.33 scale, they will be given a written warning and one month to show improvement. If the cumulative grade point average remains below 3.50 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 and values 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, academic dishonesty, suspension, or possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities or in the community.

WEARING CORDS AND LAST SEMESTER

Section 4. Offenders of the school conduct resulting in detention will receive written warning. 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 because 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 adviser/faculty council indicating the reason for consideration of dismissal.

b. The member has the **right** to respond to the charge(s) against them 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 will have the opportunity to present their 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 required to dismiss any member.

c. The results of the faculty council vote will be presented to the principal for review, and then stated in a letter sent to the student and parents. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser.

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 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

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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Signatures**/Names of the Chapter President, Secretary, Adviser, and Principal.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chapter President, |  |
| Secretary, |  |
| Advisor, Chris Norton |  |
| Principal, Joel Olufowote |  |