Sunlake High School National Honor Society Chapter Bylaws

Article I: Name - The name of this organization shall be the Sunlake High School Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS).

Article II: Membership

Section 1. Eligibility: Membership shall be open to students in the third quarter of grades 10-11 who satisfy the scholarship requirement established by the Faculty Council and approved by the principal. The minimum scholarship requirement shall be a cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.2 or higher in accordance with Pasco County School District guidelines. Consistent with NHS membership standards, students must also demonstrate excellence in: scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

Section 2. Selection Process

1. Eligible students will be identified through academic records.
2. Students meeting scholarship criteria will be invited to complete a Candidate Information Form (application) in the spring of their sophomore or junior year.
3. The Faculty Council shall review all completed applications, including supporting documentation. No late submissions will be reviewed.
4. Selection shall be based upon demonstrated scholarship, leadership, service, and character.
5. The Faculty Council's decisions shall be final, except where an error in procedure is identified.
6. An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of his or her membership and will be signed by the principal or chapter adviser.
7. A student who is an active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to this school from another will automatically be accepted for membership in this chapter. The Faculty Advisor shall grant the transferring member one semester to attain the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements in order to retain his or her membership.

Section 3. Non-Discrimination

Membership selection and chapter activities shall not discriminate on the basis of any protected status recognized by federal, state, district, or school policy.

Article III: Member Expectations

Section 1. Members shall:

- Maintain the required GPA.
- Participate in chapter meetings and activities.
- Complete required service hours.
- Uphold school and district conduct expectations.
- Demonstrate leadership, integrity, and good citizenship.

Section 2. Members are expected to:

- Attend all scheduled chapter meetings unless excused.
- Participate in chapter-sponsored service projects.
- Serve as positive role models within the school community.

Section 3. Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the NHS Stole at graduation.

Article IV: Service Requirements - Annual Requirement

Each member shall complete a minimum of 10 approved service hours per semester for a total of 20 total service hours per school year. Members shall submit service documentation by deadlines established by the adviser. The adviser reserves the right to determine whether service activities meet NHS standards.

Article V: Meetings

The chapter shall hold regular meetings throughout the school year. Meeting dates shall be announced in advance. Members are expected to attend all meetings unless excused for:

- Illness
- School-sponsored activities
- Family emergencies
- Other adviser-approved circumstances

Two unexcused absences during a school year may result in disciplinary review.

Article VI: Officers

Section 1. Officer Positions: The elected officers shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. Additional officers may be established as chapter needs require.

Section 2. Qualifications: Officer candidates must:

- Be active members in good standing.
- Be in their Junior year.
- Maintain the chapter GPA requirement.
- Demonstrate leadership and responsibility.

Section 3. Elections

1. Elections shall be held annually during the spring semester.
2. Members in good standing may vote.
3. A simple majority shall determine election results.
4. If no candidate receives a majority, a runoff election shall be held.

Article VII: Faculty Council and Adviser

The chapter adviser shall be appointed by the principal. The Faculty Council shall consist of five faculty members appointed by the principal in accordance with NHS guidelines. The Faculty Council shall oversee:

- Membership selection
- Membership review
- Discipline and dismissal proceedings

Article VIII: Discipline and Dismissal

Section 1. Probation - Members who fail to meet chapter expectations may be placed on probation. Reasons may include:

- GPA deficiency
- Failure to complete service requirements
- Excessive absences
- Conduct violations

Section 2. Notification: Members and parents/guardians shall receive written notice of deficiencies and corrective actions required.

Section 3. Dismissal - Dismissal may be considered for:

- Failure to maintain scholarship standards
- Academic dishonesty
- Plagiarism
- Cheating
- Serious disciplinary infractions
- Criminal Infractions
- Repeated failure to fulfill chapter obligations

The member shall be:

1. Notified in writing.
2. Given the opportunity to respond.
3. Afforded due process through review by the Faculty Council.

The Faculty Council's decision shall be final. 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 Honor Society.

Article IX: Finances

Section 1. Annual chapter dues shall be $20.00 per member and shall be approved by the adviser and principal. Dues are used to support chapter operations, service projects, recognition activities, induction ceremonies, and other approved NHS functions.

Members who require financial assistance should speak confidentially with an NHS adviser. No student shall be denied participation due to financial hardship when reasonable accommodations can be made.

Members who do not pay their dues by the established deadline shall be placed on probation until payment is received or alternative arrangements have been approved by an adviser..

Section 2. All newly inducted members shall purchase an official Sunlake High School NHS shirt. Current members are responsible for maintaining their NHS shirt in a clean and presentable condition throughout their membership. The official NHS shirt shall be worn at all NHS-sponsored events, service projects, and other activities designated by the adviser unless otherwise approved.

Article X: Induction

Candidates selected for membership shall participate in the official NHS Induction Ceremony.

Membership shall become active upon:

- Completion of induction requirements.
- Submission of required forms.
- Payment of approved dues