

Patchogue-Medford High School National Honor Society
Chapter Organization

Chapter Bylaws of the Thelma N. Temple Chapter of the Patchogue-Medford High School National Honor Society

Adopted: September, 2014

Article I. Name

The name of this chapter shall be the Thelma N. Temple Chapter of the National Honor Society of Patchogue-Medford High School.

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 Patchogue-Medford High School.

Article III. Powers

- Section 1.* This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the NHS National Constitution.
- Section 2.* The chapter adviser 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.
- Section 4.* Nondiscrimination. Our chapter of the NHS maintains policies and practices that are designated to prevent discrimination against any qualified candidate or member of the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex (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. Honorary members are selected at the discretion of the Faculty Council. Graduate and honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.
- Section 3.* Eligibility:
- a. Candidates eligible for membership 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 semester at Patchogue-Medford High School.
- c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative scholastic average of 90 percent.
- d. Upon meeting the grade, level, enrollment, and scholastic 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 voting faculty members, appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be a nonvoting, exofficio 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 the final selection, the following shall occur:
- a. Students' academic eligibility 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 National Honor Society Assessment for further consideration.
 - c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible.
 - d. The Faculty Council shall review the Assessment forms and other relevant information to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership.
- Section 4.* Candidates become members when inducted 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 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 VI. Obligations of Members

- Section 1.* Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$10. Dues will be payable to the chapter within 30 days of induction.
- Section 2.* Each member of the chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations will be granted the privilege 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 adviser.
- Section 4.* Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the honor cords and collar at graduation.

Article VII. Officers

- Section 1.* The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and historian. Four additional officers will be selected by the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and historian once they have been elected. These nine officers will be known as the Executive Committee.
- Section 2.* Student officers shall be elected at the last 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.
- Section 6.* The secretary shall keep minutes for the 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 chapters.
- Section 8.* Remaining Executive Board members, without a duty described above, will be assigned the responsibilities of keeping a record of members' contributions to leadership and service and keeping attendance records.
- Section 9.* Officers and the faculty advisor shall be collectively 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 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 the chapter shall be monthly. 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. Members are required to attend 50% of all chapter meetings held during their senior year.

Article IX. Activities

- Section 1.* The chapter shall determine service projects for each year.
- Section 2.* All members shall participate regularly 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.* Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in activities approved by the chapter adviser. Each member must participate in no less than four community service projects. Each project should be valued at ½ credit of service. Therefore, members will be responsible for achieving 2.0 credits of service before the annual special induction ceremony.
- 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, leadership, character or service may be considered for discipline from the Patchogue-Medford 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 in his/her school and community.
- Section 2.* If a member's cumulative grade point average falls below the standard of 90, he/she may be given a written warning and a reasonable time period for improvement. If the cumulative grade point average remains below the standard at the end of the warning period the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council that can include 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, of 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 will receive written warning notification. A conference may be requested by the Faculty Council or the parent/student. 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 will be given the opportunity 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 in lieu of the face-to-face hearing. Following the hearing, the Faculty Council will the 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 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

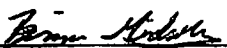
Section 1. These bylaws will be approved upon receiving a two-thirds affirmative vote of all active members of the chapter, a majority affirmative of the Faculty Council, and approval by the administration.

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

Article XII. Amendments

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 Article V and X, which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the principal (selection and discipline).


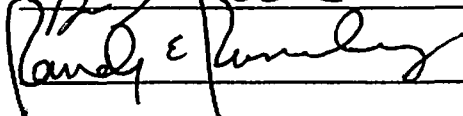
Approved on May 1, 2015



Brian Michels, President



Sam Zurl, Secretary

Raegen Sweda-Abrescia, Advisor

Dr. Randy Rusielewicz, Principal