



National Honor Society

Chapter Bylaws of the Milwaukee Academy of Science
2000 W. Kilbourn Ave
Milwaukee, WI, 53233
Adopted: April 9th, 2021

Article I: Nova Nation

The name of this chapter shall be the Nova Nation Chapter of the National Honor Society of the Milwaukee Academy of Science.

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 the Milwaukee Academy of Science.

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: This chapter will remain an active member of the state association by paying annual dues and participating in state functions when possible.

Section 3: The chapter advisor is given 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 reside with the school principal.

Section 5: 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.

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 the chapter affairs.

Section 3: Eligibility

- a. Candidates eligible for selection of this chapter must be members of the sophomore, 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 trimester at the Milwaukee Academy of Science.
- c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- 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 Membership

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 NHS advisor. The chapter advisor 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 trimester of the school year.

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

- a. Students academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. All students who are eligible scholastically shall be notified and asked to complete and submit all application forms for further consideration.
- c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the recommendation 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.

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

Section 5: An active member of 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 trimester to attain 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: Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to membership standards and member obligations shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society.

Section 2: Any member who withdraws, resigns or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

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

Section 4: Chapter members are required to complete 20 hours of service annually (In addition to the Chapter Service Project), which shall be documented using the community service verification form.

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 the school year. All returning members in good standing with the chapter are eligible to run for a position as an officer. Any active members 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 treasurer shall keep record of business expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter.

Section 8: Officers and the faculty advisor 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 chapter members.

Article VIII: Meetings

Section 1: Regular meetings of this chapter shall be twice a month minimum. 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.

Article IX: Activities

Section 1: The chapter shall determine one or more service projects for each year.

Section 2: All members shall regularly participate in these projects

Section 3: These projects shall have the following characteristics: fulfill a need within the school or community; have support of the administration and the faculty

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 adviser. 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 standard of scholarship, service, leadership or character may be considered for discipline or the dismissal from the Milwaukee Academy of Science Chapter of the National Honor Society. A member of NHS 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 (3.0 out of a 4.0 scale), 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, that student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the faculty council that includes dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3: Violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of the member. 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 the school or school related activities or in the community.

Section 4: Offenders of 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 consequences of disciplinary action taken by 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 charges 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 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 a 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 advisor.
- d. The faculty council's decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards according to provisions of the school district disciplinary policies.
- e. A member who is dismissed or resigns may never again be considered for National Honor Society.

Article XI: Ratification, Approval and Review

Section 1: These bylaws will be approved upon receiving two-thirds affirmative vote of all active members of the chapter, a majority affirmative vote of the faculty council and approved 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 $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the chapter, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given to the members at least one month prior to vote. The exceptions are Articles V and X, which are developed by the faculty council with the approval of the principal (selection and discipline).