

National Honor Society Chapter Bylaws Garaway High School

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1 - The name of this chapter shall be the National Honor Society of Garaway High School.

Section 2 - 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 the students of Garaway High School

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - Membership in this chapter shall be known as active, honorary, and graduate. Active members become graduate members at graduation. Graduate and honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

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, leadership, service, and character.

Section 3 - Eligibility

- a. Candidates eligible for induction to this chapter must be members of the junior or senior class. If as a junior you were invited to fill out the NHS application and chose not to, you are not eligible your senior year.
- b. A student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or higher on a weighted scale.
- c. Students must demonstrate that they have taken the initiative to lead others, either by directing an activity or program or innovating some idea or concept either in school or within the community while in high school. Students must exhibit on-going and consistent leadership from the start of grade 9 through selection/induction.
- d. Students must have made a significant and consistent contribution in some activity or organization (on a strictly voluntary basis) which promotes the idea of improving the quality of life for others from the start of grade 9 through selection/induction.
- e. Students must demonstrate on a consistent basis maturity, sensitivity, high ethical/moral values, good sportsmanship, and above all - honesty.
- f. Students should be a role model for other students in his/her daily conduct and attitude.

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.

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 NHS application for further consideration for selection.
- c. The Faculty Council shall review the application and faculty evaluations in order to determine membership.

Section 3 - The selection of new members shall be held once a year. The induction ceremony will occur in the spring.

Section 4 - Candidates become members when inducted at the induction 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 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 advisor.

Section 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 Council 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.

ARTICLE IV: DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL

Section 1 - Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, service, or character may be considered for dismissal from the National Honor Society of Garaway High School. A member of the NHS is expected to maintain his or her academic standing and take an active role in leadership and service in our school and community.

Section 2 - If a member's cumulative grade point falls below the standard in effect when he or she was selected, he or she will be given a written warning and a time period (generally of one marking 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 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 as outlined in the discipline policy of Garaway High School will result in 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 school or school-related activities.

Section 5 - Violation of the school conduct code may result in a disciplinary hearing and the potential dismissal of the member. These violations include, but are not limited to: use of profanity, cheating, bullying, failure to comply, unexcused absence, excessive tardiness.

Section 6 - In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification from the Advisor or Faculty Council indicating the reason for possible dismissal. The member and advisor 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 (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 in writing. The Faculty Council will then discuss whether no action, probation for a specific period of time or dismissal is more appropriate. A majority vote of the Faculty Council is needed to dismiss any member.
- c. The advisor will send a letter to the member and his/her parents that explain the result of the Faculty Council vote. If the Faculty Council votes for probation, they may suggest the member complete certain tasks to remain in the National Honor Society. Those tasks must be listed in the letter. If the Faculty Council votes for dismissal, the letter sent by the advisor will go to the student, parents, and principal. 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 through the school district discipline policy. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he/she is no longer a member and may never again be considered for membership in the National Honor Society.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1 - The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. These officers shall be elected by the membership at the last meeting of the year

Section 2 - It shall be the duty of the president to determine meeting agendas; run chapter meetings, monitor members participation in meetings and activities and intervene as needed; and keep the advisor informed of any and all NHS-related activities, concerns, and ideas.

Section 3 - The vice-president's service shall plan and implement all service projects and activities (minimum of two per semester); solicit ideas for service projects from members; coordinate committees to help facilitate service projects; monitor service activities; and report service plans, progress, and outcomes to the chapter advisor. The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president at meetings.

Section 4 - The secretary shall keep the minutes and attendance records for meetings; collect tutoring documentation hours; collect service documentation hours; update hours accrued by NHS members; notify president, vice-president and advisor by December 1 and March 1 of any members who lack 10 NHS-related service hours; and be responsible for all official correspondence.

Section 5 - The treasurer shall keep the record of business expenses and all other financial transactions of the chapter.

Section 6 - If, in the opinion of the advisor, an officer is not accomplishing their assigned duties in a timely manner, then the membership will be asked to vote on the removal of the offending officer. This vote should be by secret written ballot, counted in the presence of the advisor by the remaining officers. The announcement of the impending vote will occur during one meeting and the vote during the next scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1 - The executive committee shall consist of the faculty advisor and the chapter officers.

Section 2 - The executive committee shall have general charge of the meetings and the business of the chapter, but any action by the committee is subject to review of the chapter members.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1 - Meetings of this chapter shall be the first Friday of each month at 7:00 a.m. If there is no school on the first Friday of the month, the meeting shall move to the following Friday.

Section 2 - All chapter members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled meetings. If unable to attend, members must let the advisor know by email prior to the meeting of any conflict. Members shall miss no more than 2 meetings during the school year. Failure to attend meetings may be grounds for probation or dismissal.

Section 3 - For participation in chapter meetings, you will receive 0.5 hours of service.

ARTICLE VIII: ACTIVITIES

Section 1 - The chapter shall determine one or more service projects for each semester.

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 the support of the administration and 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 service projects which reflects his/her particular talents and interests. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute and in addition to the 10 community service hours required for graduation. Each member must turn in proof of their participation to the chapter secretary by December 1 for the first semester and March 1 for the second semester. The supervisor of the service project must verify the hours of service with a signature and provide contact information.

ARTICLE IX: FUNDRAISERS

Section 1 - To raise awareness and acquire money for our mission to use towards service projects and charitable donations, we as a chapter fundraise.

Section 2 - All members are expected to participate in our fundraising projects.

ARTICLE X: TASSELS

Section 1 - Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to membership standards and membership obligations shall have the privilege of wearing the National Honor Society tassels at graduation.

Section 2 - Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is not in good standing with the chapter shall not wear the tassel at graduation.

ARTICLE XI: BYLAWS

Section 1 - 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.

Section 2 - Bylaws and amendments must be consistent with the constitution of the National Honor Society.

Section 3 - Each inducted member, and parents, of the 2024/2025, and beyond, of the National Honor Society of Garaway High School must read these bylaws and sign that you have read and will abide by these rules adopted by our local NHS chapter.

Please return with all signatures

I, _____, agree to the bylaws of the National Honor Society of Garaway High School. I understand what is expected of me in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service and character.

I understand that my failure to meet these expectations may lead to my membership being revoked.

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____