# MONROE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

**NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY** 

By-Laws

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### ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be the Monroe Township High School Chapter of the National Honor Society.

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 Monroe Township High School.

# ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be known as probationary, active, honorary, and graduate. Active members become graduate members at graduation. Graduate and honorary members have no 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, Service, Leadership, and Character.

# Section 3. Eligibility:

- a. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be second semester juniors or older.
- b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of one semester at Monroe Township High School.
- c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall be have a 90.000 cumulative weighted grade point average. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed and shall be the required minimum scholastic level of achievement for admission to candidacy. All students who can rise in scholarship to or above such standard may be admitted to candidacy for selection to membership.
- d. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and GPA standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character.
- e. Students must maintain high levels of character through adherence to school rules and regulations in accordance with the student conduct code. Students that receive In School Suspension (ISS), Out of School Suspension (OSS), are caught cheating and/or plagiarizing an assignment may be deemed ineligible by the selection members for admittance into the National Honor Society (see Article III).

#### 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 appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be the sixth, non-voting, ex-officio member of the Faculty Council.

Section 2. Prior to selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. Students' discipline records shall be reviewed to indicate honor.
- c. Students who are eligible scholastically ("candidates") shall be notified and asked to fill out National Honor Society Application Form for further consideration for selection.
- d. The faculty and staff shall be requested to evaluate each candidate's character and leadership in the classroom setting using the official evaluation form provided by the chapter adviser.
- e. Candidates shall be asked to complete a Student Activity Information packet and write one essay for further consideration for selection. The selection packet will request an essay describing the candidate's leadership qualities and any community service projects that they have already been involved with.
- f. The Faculty Council shall review the Student Activity Information Form, essay, and faculty/staff evaluations in order to determine membership.
- Section 3. The selection of new, probationary and active members shall be held once a year in the spring semester for members of the junior and senior classes.
- Section 4. Candidates become active 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 a letter indicating the status of his/her membership and signed by the Principal [alt., adviser].
- 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 IV: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service may be dismissed from 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 to his/her school and community.

Section 2. If a member's GPA falls below the 90.000 cumulative weighted grade point average mark, the student will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement. If the cumulative grade point average remains below standard at the end of the warning period the

student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council that may include dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3. Violation of the law or school regulations can result in dismissal of a member.

Section 4. Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absence, 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 dismissed.

# Section 5. In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the adviser/Faculty Council. The member and adviser 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/her at a hearing before the Faculty Council prior to the 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 in writing. The Faculty Council will then 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 reviewed by the principal, and then if confirmed, expressed in a letter sent to the student, parents, and principal. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser.
- d. 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.

Section 6. In lieu of dismissal, the Faculty Council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

### ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president of community service, vice president of tutoring, vice president of fundraising, and secretary.

Section 2. All active members are eligible for officer positions.

Section 3. Student officers shall be selected by their peers through an election process. The newly selected officers will be announced at the induction ceremony.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings for this chapter.

Section 5. The vice-president of community service shall preside in the absence of the president and shall also keep a record of members' contributions to leadership and service.

Section 6. The vice-president of tutoring shall preside in the absence of the president and the vice president of community service and shall also keep a record of members' contributions to tutoring service.

Section 7. The vice-president of fundraising shall preside in the absence of the president, the vice president of community service, and the vice president of tutoring and shall identify and organize fundraising activities/events for the local chapter.

Section 8. The secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of the faculty advisers 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 executive committee is subject to the review of the chapter members.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings of this chapter shall be monthly.

Section 2. All chapter members are expected to attend all regularly-scheduled chapter meetings. After two absences (excused or unexcused), members will receive a written warning of dismissal.

ARTICLE VIII: ACTIVITIES

Section 1. The chapter shall conduct 1 service project a year for the local community.

Section 2. All members shall participate in the project.

Section 3. This project 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. The chapter shall publicize its project in a positive manner.

Section 5. Each member will be expected to complete at least 4 hours of community service and 2 hours of tutoring per marking period.

Section 6. Each member will be expected to complete at least 2 hours of tutoring in the high school media center after school within the calendar year.

ARTICLE IX: EMBLEM

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

ARTICLE X: DUES

Section 1. Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$50.00

Section 2. Dues will be payable within 30 days of induction.

ARTICLE XI: GOOD STANDING

Section 1. A member will be considered in good standing if the student's dues have been paid.

Section 2. A member will be considered in good standing if the student has completed, documented, and turned in the appropriate number of service hours.

Section 3. A member will be considered in good standing if the student has attended regular monthly chapter meetings (see ARTICLE VII, Section 2).

ARTICLE XII: POWERS

Section 1. The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

Section 2. The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

Section 3. These by-laws 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.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These by-laws 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 II, III, IV (selection and discipline) and V, which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the principal.

Section 2. By-laws and amendments must be consistent with the Constitution of the National Honor Society.

Signatures:

Tegh Aiden, Chapter President

Matthew Skobelev, Secretary

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Peter Ruckdeschel, Co-Adviser

Sara Sanguilano, Co-Adviser

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Scott Madreperla, Principal

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