

Port Jervis High School
Neversink Chapter
Honor Society Bylaws

Article I – Name

The Port Jervis High School branch of the Honor Society shall be known as the Neversink Chapter of the National Honor Society.

Article II – Purpose

The general purpose of this organization is to create enthusiasm for scholarship and to develop character in the students of Port Jervis High School.

Article III – Powers Vested in the Organization

National Honor Society Privileges

1. To claim NHS membership on college applications and scholarships.
2. To use NHS cards as a hall pass, with the teacher's permission
3. To attend functions or field trips that the group sponsors
4. To have the NHS designation at graduation

Article IV – Role of the Principal

1. The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.
2. The principal shall annually appoint a member of the faculty as chapter advisor, who may serve consecutive terms.
3. The principal shall annually approve a Faculty Council composed of five members of the school's faculty, who may serve consecutive terms.
4. The principal shall receive appeals in cases of non-selection of candidates, and the disciplining or dismissal of members.

Article V – Membership

1. Membership is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by a Faculty Council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.
2. Membership shall be known as active, honorary and graduate. Active members shall become graduate members at graduation. Graduate members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.
3. The Faculty Council shall reserve the right to award honorary membership to school officials, principals, teachers, NHS advisers, adults, students with disabilities, or foreign exchange students in recognition of achievement and/or outstanding service rendered to the school in keeping with the purposes of the National Honor Society. Honorary members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.
4. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.
5. Members who are seniors in good standing are eligible to be nominated by their chapters to complete in the National Honor Society Scholarship Program.
6. A National Honor Society member who transfers to another school and brings a letter from the former principal or chapter adviser to the new school adviser shall be accepted automatically as a member in the new school's chapter. Transfer members must meet the new chapter's standards within the first semester in order to retain membership.
7. Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.

Article VI – Selection of Members

1. To be eligible for membership, the candidate must be a member of the sophomore, junior or senior class.
2. Candidates must have a cumulative unweighted scholastic average of 88 percent. Guidance will provide the advisor with a list of potential candidates after the second semester.
3. Students who are eligible scholastically will be notified and informed that for further consideration for selection to the National Honor Society, they must complete a Student Activity Information Form.
4. Input from faculty will be taken into consideration by the Faculty Council.
5. The Student Activity Information Form, along with any other verifiable information about the candidate, will be reviewed by the Faculty Council.
6. Candidates receiving a majority vote of Faculty Council will be inducted into the chapter.
7. Students who are selected will be notified and given information regarding the induction ceremony and the obligations of membership in the National Honor Society.

Article VII – Meetings

1. Quarterly meeting (during the school year) for the entire membership will be held.
2. A special meeting, when necessary, may be called by the officers or the advisor.

Article VIII – Duties and Responsibilities

A. National Honor Society members must:

1. Maintain a cumulative unweighted of 88 or higher.
2. Follow all school rules with a respectful attitude
3. Attend all NHS meeting (more than three unexcused absences will put your membership in jeopardy)
4. Participate in all group service projects in school and community
5. Participate in individual service projects
6. Participate in group fund-raisers
7. Be a leader

B. Officers

1. Attendance at all meetings
2. Participation in induction ceremony
3. Attendance at the meetings prior to group meetings, to determine the agenda

C. Advisor

1. Oversees the day to day activities of the organization.
2. Acts as a liaison between faculty, administration, students and community.
3. Maintains the files on membership activities and financial transactions.

Article IX – Election of Officers

1. The National Honor Society meeting for the election of officers will take place after candidates have been inducted.
2. Current sophomores and juniors will nominate and then vote for the National Honor Society officers.
3. If a vacancy in the National Honor Society Office exists, a special meeting will be held to fill the vacant office.

Article X – Ratification of By-Laws

1. NHS members will receive a copy of the by-laws to review and discuss prior to a vote.
2. Ratification will occur after a two-thirds approval by chapter and Faculty Council.

Note: Sections dealing with procedures for selection, disciplining or dismissal of members can only be changed by Faculty Council, although input from the membership will be considered.

Article XI – Amending By-Laws

1. A committee will be set up to review the by-laws.
2. NHS membership, the principal and the Faculty Council will be informed of any proposed changes.
3. Ratification will occur after a two-thirds approval by chapter and Faculty Council.

Roles of Officers

1. President – head of NHS, he/she is key in motivating other members and coordinating the efforts of the officer group.
2. Vice President – The second in command is typically in charge of coordinating the work of the committees.
3. Secretary – This person keeps records of group activities, whether minutes of meetings, or project files on group events. He/she also handles correspondence, including thank you notes.
4. Treasurer – This person maintains financial records for the group and provide periodic updates. He/she often assumes the role of chief financial consultant, working with committees to set budgets, securing prices on materials and supplies, and handling all financial affairs for the group.
5. Parliamentarian – This person maintains order at meetings.
6. Social Chairperson – This person is responsible for organizing any social functions of the NHS.