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Chapter Bylaws
of the
York Early College Academy Chapter
of the
Junior National Honor Society
Adopted: 12/2024

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

The name of this chapter shall be the York Early College Academy Chapter of the Junior National Honor Society.

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 York Early College Academy.

ARTICLE II: 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 chapter affairs.

Section 3. Eligibility:

a. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be members of the grades 7-9.

b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been enrolled for a period equivalent to two marking periods at York Early College Academy.

c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have the following:

1. **7th-9th grade:** Three consecutive report cards from York Early College Academy
   (a) A minimum cumulative grade point average of at least 90%.
   (b) The students must pass, with a 65% or higher, all courses they are enrolled in.

d. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and GPA standards, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, character and citizenship.

ARTICLE III: 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 faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be the sixth, non voting member of the faculty council. Prior to notification of any candidates, the chapter adviser shall review with the principal the results of the Faculty Council's deliberations.

Section 2. The selection of active members shall be held once a year after the fourth marking period of the school year.

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

a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
b. Students on the college campus must provide a copy of their unofficial transcript in their form package.
c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible and demonstrate a history of upholding conduct standards, according to YECA's disciplinary policies, without any disciplinary infractions.
d. All students who are eligible scholastically (i.e., candidates) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the candidate information form for further consideration.
e. Junior National Honor Society inductees must submit their service experience (10 hours).
f. The Faculty Council shall review the Candidate Form, disciplinary records, attendance records, student personal statements, interview, and faculty evaluations in order to determine membership.
    i. Students must be present 94% of the school year.
    ii. Students must have no more than 5 latenesses to school, per marking period.

Section 4. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony. If members are not inducted via this special ceremony, then they are not members. Attendance at the induction ceremony is mandatory, with the exception of students in mandatory home instruction.

Section 5. An active member of the Junior 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 Junior 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: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the Junior 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 the honor cords at graduation.

ARTICLE V: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL of MEMBERS

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, service, leadership, or character may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the York Early College Academy chapter of the Junior National Honor Society. A member of the Junior 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 cumulative grade point average falls below the standard in effect when he/she was selected, 90%, 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 the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the faculty council that includes consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3. Offenders of the school conduct code (such as plagiarism, use of AI, use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, drug paraphernalia on their person, 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.

a. Conduct and Attendance:
    i. Conduct standards include not following classroom expectations and procedures, no dean's referrals, no principal or superintendent suspensions and lunch reflection for the school year.
    ii. Students must be present 94% of the school year.
    iii. Students must have no more than 5 latenesses to school, per marking period.

Section 4. 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 5. In all cases of pending dismissal:

a. The member will receive written notification from the adviser/faculty council indicating the reason for consideration of dismissal.

b. The member has the right 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 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 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.

e. A member who is dismissed or resigns may never again be considered for membership in the Junior National Honor Society.Written verification must be given to the adviser by the student who wishes to resign.

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

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president and secretary.

Section 2. Student officers shall be elected at the last meeting of each school year with the exception of the chapter's first school year. During the first school year, officers will be selected at the beginning of the following school year. All returning 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. Members will nominate peers for the officer roles. The Faculty Council will review nominations and then members will vote from the final list of nominees. 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.

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 (oversee group service projects).

Section 6. The vice president shall take over for the president permanently if the president exceeds one absence for a meeting.

Section 7. The secretary shall keep the minutes and attendance records for meetings and be responsible for all official correspondence.

Section 8. The treasurer, who is a Faculty Council member, shall keep the record of business expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter.

Section 9: If an officer cannot fulfill their commitments and/or is dismissed from the Junior National Honor Society, then the person who received the second highest number of votes in the election will take their position.

Section 10. Officers and the faculty adviser(s) 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 the chapter members.

ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of the faculty adviser 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 VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings of this chapter shall be monthly. Special meetings can be called by the president with approval of the adviser.

Section 2. The Executive Committee will meet monthly.

Section 3. This chapter shall conduct its meetings according to *Robert's Rules of Order (optional)*.

Section 4. All chapter members are expected to attend all regularly-scheduled chapter meetings.

Section 5. Members will faithfully attend monthly meetings held by our Society. If members cannot attend, it is their responsibility to meet with a member to be caught up with all information presented at the meeting. If members cannot attend, they must complete an absence google form.

Members are allowed to have no more than two (2) unexcused absences, if a member has two (2) or more unexcused absences the member will have to go before the Faculty Council for possible dismissal. Two (2) latenesses are equal to one absence.

ARTICLE IV: ACTIVITIES

Section 1:

I will maintain a cumulative grade point average of 90% or higher for the remainder of my high school career. I realize that if my GPA falls below this level, I will be on probation for one semester. If I fail to raise my GPA over 90% by the end of that time, I will be dismissed.

I will commit myself to the high standards of ***character***, ***leadership***, and ***service*** that I have already set for myself. Any transgressions against the school code of conduct, or other incidence unbecoming an NHS member, will be brought before the Faculty Council and may result in discipline up to, and including, dismissal.

I will be present for 94% of the school year. I will pass, with a 65% or higher, all courses that I am enrolled in. I will have no more than 5 latenesses to school, per marking period.

I will faithfully attend monthly meetings held by our Society. If I cannot attend a meeting, I will be required to meet with a member and learn of any information I missed. If the absence is a documented valid reason (e.g. field trip, illness, or some other reasons - then documentation is required to be submitted to the adviser within one school week of the absence). On the second **unexcused** absence, I will be up for dismissal from the Society upon consideration of the Faculty Council. Two (2) latenesses are equal to one absence.

I understand that I am required to have 20 hours of service. These hours will be fulfilled with service projects. The adviser will sign off on all hours. The NHS service project hours form must be filled out completely and submitted and will be verified. The adviser will provide

well above the amount of hours needed. The calculation of hours is due by May of each school year.

Section 2. The chapter shall determine one or more service projects for each year.

Section 3. All members shall regularly participate in these projects.

Section 4. 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 5. The chapter shall publicize and promote its projects in a positive manner.

ARTICLE X: RATIFICATION, APPROVAL, and REVIEW.

Section 1. These bylaws will be approved upon receiving a majority affirmative vote of the faculty council and approval by the administration.

Section 2. These bylaws shall be reviewed and if necessary modified, from the date of approval noted on this document.

ARTICLE XI: 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 Junior National Honor Society (*Article XV, Section 3 of the national constitution)*.

Section 2. Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter. If the members purchased such emblems, the chapter is obligated to reimburse the student for said expense if the member resigns or is dismissed.

Section 3. Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the honor cords [*or other insignia adopted at the local level*] at graduation.

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 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.

ARTICLE XIII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These bylaws 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 IV, V, and X, which are developed by the faculty council with the approval of the principal.

Section 2. Bylaws and amendments must be consistent with the Constitution of the Junior National Honor Society.

Non-discrimination. The 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, sex (gender), and disability. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all practices, including the chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members.

Approved May 2025: Last approved revision 11/2026.

Bylaws are mandatory to be obliged to, with the exception of an extenuating circumstance to be reviewed by the Faculty Council. These bylaws will be explained at the first membership meeting and posted on our webpage.