

***The Bylaws of the S. John Davis Chapter  
of the National Honor Society***

(Amended Fall 2017)

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**Article I: Name**

The name of this organization shall be the S. John Davis Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) at West Springfield High School.

**Article II: Purpose**

The purpose of this organization is to honor the academic achievement of students at West Springfield High School and to utilize their resources to serve the school and surrounding community. Similarly the NHS attempts to demonstrate the necessity of altruistic work for a society to prosper.

**Article III: Membership**

The selection process for membership will be determined by the Faculty Council.

To be eligible for membership consideration, students must have been in attendance at West Springfield High School for the equivalent of one semester and must meet the academic standard as established by the Faculty Council. Additionally, potential members must meet high standards of leadership, service, and character.

Transfer NHS students who bring official membership documentation (i.e. letter from former principal and/or NHS adviser) stating that they left their former school as a member in good standing will be accepted as a new member of the S. John Davis Chapter.

**Article IV: The Pledge**

The National Honor Society Pledge is as follows:

I pledge to uphold the high purposes of the National Honor Society to which I have been selected, striving in every way, by word and deed, to make its ideals the ideals of my school and of my life. I will be loyal to my school; and will maintain and encourage high standards of Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Character.

**Article V: Officers**

There shall be offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian and Publicity Officer. The candidates with the plurality of the vote will be considered to be chosen for office. All offices are open to both juniors and seniors.

The **President** shall preside over meetings and work with the executive board in making decisions and delegating responsibilities.

The **Vice President** shall fill the role of the president in the absence of the President.

The **Secretary** shall maintain the membership roster and record service points for all members in an efficient and accurate manner.

The **Treasurer** shall keep accurate financial records of all the assets and liabilities of the chapter. He/She shall also be responsible for collecting and keeping record of chapter dues.

The **Publicity Officer** is responsible for keeping the general membership informed and publicize the chapter's activities.

The **Historian** shall keep accurate records of and maintain all historical files of the Chapter.

#### **Article VI: Dues**

Members are expected to pay by October 1<sup>st</sup> yearly dues as established by the Executive Council. This fee can be waived if a member's family is financially unable to pay. New inductees are required to pay these dues by the date specified in their selection letter. Failure to pay dues will result in cancellation of membership. Junior dues will be \$20 and Senior dues will be \$25. This provides payment for point opportunity materials at the school and for graduation stoles for members in good standing at the conclusion of their senior year.

#### **Article VII: Impeachment of Officers and Terms**

The term of office for all positions shall be one year. Impeachment shall be voted by 4/5 of the faculty council with the approval of the adviser(s).

#### **Article VIII: Meetings**

Members are required to attend all membership meetings which are held the first Tuesday of each month when school meets. If an emergency arises and a member cannot attend a meeting, they are required to inform the Adviser(s) and provide a written excuse. Missing more than one meeting constitutes grounds for probation. Extenuating circumstances need to be addressed to the adviser(s). Members are responsible for all information and policies presented at a meeting whether or not they attend the meeting.

#### **Article IX: Service**

All members are required to perform community service as established by the Executive Council. Members must complete at least half of the required community service each semester (no more than 50% from Individual Community Service). Members cannot receive credit for service in which they performed for another school organization nor will credit be received if monetary compensation is given to the member. Points shall not carry over from year to year but may carry over from the first school semester to the second school semester.

#### **Article X: Probation and Dismissal**

Any member who falls below the standards which were the basis of selection (scholarship, leadership, service, and character) shall be promptly placed on probation by the chapter adviser(s) and given a reasonable amount of time to correct the deficiency. In the case of

flagrant violation of school rules or civil laws a member may immediately be dismissed from the society.

If a member is dismissed or resigns from the NHS, they shall not be eligible for membership in the NHS again.

### **Junior Year**

- Members will be placed on Probation if at the end of their junior year they do not meet or exceed the academic standard. Members are given one semester to meet the academic standard. The Faculty Council will conduct a dismissal hearing for any member who does not meet the academic standard after a semester of probation.
- Members who at the end of their junior year fail to meet the service requirement will be placed on probation and are required to complete their service requirement plus one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) penalty point for every point or fraction of a point not met. The Faculty Council will conduct a dismissal hearing for any member who has not completed their past service (and penalty service) by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Senior Year**

- Members who at the end of the first semester do not meet the academic standard will be considered for dismissal.
- Members who at the end of the first semester have not completed their first semester service requirement will be considered for dismissal.
- Members who have not provided documentation of and met their service requirement by June 1<sup>st</sup> will be unable to wear NHS regalia at graduation.

### **Article XI: Faculty Council**

A Faculty Council, appointed by the principal, shall serve as a selection committee and preside over dismissal hearings. All faculty members are eligible for the council except for the principal. The NHS adviser(s) shall be a non-voting sixth member of the council.

### **Article XII: Executive Council**

The Officers and Adviser(s) are the members of the Executive Council. Each member of the Executive Council has one vote.

### **Article XIII: Amendments**

Amendments to the bylaws may be proposed by any member and shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Council. Proposed amendments approved (by majority vote) by the Executive Council shall be submitted to the membership at the next general membership meeting. If a quorum is present, a two-thirds majority vote of the members in attendance is needed to approve the amendment.