

Bylaws for Tri-M® Local Chapter 3977

All Tri-M chapters function under the governing policies of the Tri-M Program Guidelines. Only NAFME staff is allowed to amend the Tri-M Program Guidelines. These sample bylaws have been written in accordance with the Tri-M Program Guidelines and may be used as an example by Tri-M chapters. Each chapter is expected to amend, revise, and amplify these bylaws in simple, direct language with information and procedures pertinent to the chapter's operation. When complete, these bylaws should define the limits of authority for the organization and give a sense of both order and purpose to the chapter's activities.

Preamble

We, the members of the Southampton High School music department, in an effort to inspire music participation, create enthusiasm for scholarship, stimulate a desire to render service, and promote leadership in the music students of our school, accept these bylaws for the establishment and operation of our Tri-M Music Honor Society chapter.

Article I—Chapter Name and Location

The name of this chapter will be known as:

Tri-M Music Honor Society Chapter 3977 at Southampton High School.

Article II—Division

This chapter will be a Senior chapter of the Tri-M Music Honor Society.
Members will be Senior division members of Tri-M.

Article III—Purpose

The purpose of this chapter will be to:

- Provide an appropriate method for recognizing the musical achievements of our members
- Strengthen our school's music program
- Help our members reach their full musical potential
- Motivate and recognize our members' musical and personal achievements, credits, and grades
- Encourage our members to work together toward the same goal
- Inspire and challenge our members
- Focus public attention on our school's music program through community service

Article IV—General Powers

The Tri-M chapter participants are limited to the powers vested to them by NAFME, the Tri-M Program Guidelines, and these bylaws.

As a program of Southampton High School this Tri-M chapter understands that the principal and school administration have the power to veto any local Tri-M decisions.

Only NAFME has the power to amend or revise the Tri-M Program Guidelines.

Article V—Membership

Section One—Membership Classes

Members shall be Active, Alumni, or Honorary.

Section Two—Active Membership

A. Requirements

Candidates for active student membership shall be chosen by the chapter advisor and a faculty committee made up of 2 additional faculty members in the music department. Candidates for active student membership shall be chosen from those students enrolled in the music department at Southampton High School. Candidates, at the time of their selection, shall meet the following requirements:

- They must have enrolled in a music ensemble for at least two semesters of the current school year at Southampton High School;
- They must exhibit virtues including but not limited to leadership, service, and character in their activities while at Southampton High School;
- They must have maintained during their tenure in Tri-M at least an 90 average grade or equivalent in music with at least a 85 average grade or equivalent in other academic subjects.
- They must be in good standing (minimum 75% attendance) in one school sponsored extra-curricular music activity (jazz band, pit orchestra, symphony orchestra, spring musical, stage crew) VOSH

B. Public Notice

A written description of the selection procedure shall be made available to all music students and their parents prior to candidate consideration. The selection procedure shall be consistent with articles of the Tri-M Program Guidelines.

C. Lapsed Membership

Members and their eligibility for Tri-M membership shall be reviewed on an annual basis to consider their continued participation in the Tri-M program. These reviews will be done at the start of Semester 2, by advisor, Mrs. Nancy Caine and all music department staff. The review shall confirm the member's enrollment in a Southampton High School music ensemble and/or class for at least two semesters of the current school year and that the member has maintained for the previous semester at least a 90 average grade or equivalent in music, with at least an 85 average grade or equivalent in other academic subjects.

If a current member does not or cannot meet the academic or music criteria necessary to be considered a Tri-M member, his or her membership will lapse in good standing until the music and academic criteria are once again met.

The chapter advisor shall determine when a lapsed member is reinstated based upon proof that membership criteria have once again been met.

D. Dismissal

Dismissal is a permanent revocation of Tri-M membership without the option of reinstatement unless overturned by an appeal.

Dismissal is warranted by flagrant violation of school rules or criminal law. A member may be dismissed without warning. A written documentation of the dismissal procedure shall be available to interested parties.

Any member who is dismissed shall surrender all Tri-M insignia items to the chapter advisor. If the member paid for the membership insignia items, the chapter will reimburse the student for the original cost of the items.

E. Dismissal Appeal

A member who has been dismissed may appeal the decision. The principal of the school shall assign an impartial faculty committee of three or more to review the appeal. The same rules that would be used for a disciplinary appeal in the school district shall apply.

Section Three—Alumni Membership

Upon graduation, active members shall become alumni members. Alumni members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section Four—Honorary Membership

The chapter advisor may award honorary memberships in recognition of achievement and/or outstanding service rendered to the chapter in keeping with the purpose of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Honorary membership may be awarded to guest clinicians, school officials, principals, teachers, Tri-M advisors, adults, or students with disabilities who are unable to fully meet the active member criteria. Other students are not eligible for honorary membership. Honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Article VI—Executive Committee

Section One—Committee Members

The executive committee of this chapter will consist of a chapter advisor.

Section One—Chapter Advisor

The chapter advisor of this chapter shall be a teacher in the music department at Southampton High School. This chapter will have the option to have co-advisors appointed by the advisor to assist with chapter operations.

The advisor of this chapter will act as supervisor, guide, and counselor in all matters pertaining to chapter operations. The advisor will attend all chapter meetings and submit chapter fees with the proper forms.

Article VII—Meetings

Section One

There will be at least 2 scheduled meetings of this chapter per year and determined by the chapter advisor.

Article X—Induction Ceremony

This chapter will hold at least 1 public induction ceremony/ceremonies each school year as planned by the executive committee. All induction ceremonies will be held after school hours with parents, friends, school officials, faculty members, and other students in the music department invited to attend.

Article XI—Bylaw Ratification

Bylaws must be approved by the chapter advisor and school administration and receive a two-thirds affirmative vote from chapter members to be ratified as law of the organization.

Article XIII—Amendments

The chapter shall regularly review these bylaws and amend or revise them if they do not meet the current needs of the chapter. Any amendment or revision must be consistent with the Tri-M Program Guidelines.

Any member may submit minor revision drafts to the Executive Committee for consideration. A specially appointed bylaws revision committee shall draft major revisions or complete bylaw rewrites. Revision proposals must be passed by an Executive Committee majority vote to be presented to the chapter membership for a vote.

When the Executive Committee passes a revision proposal with a majority vote, that revision proposal shall be presented to the chapter in written form prior to a chapter vote for adoption as chapter law. Proposed amendments or revisions require a two-thirds affirmative vote by chapter membership and school administration approval for adoption.