

**2023-2024**

**BY-LAWS: CUM LAUDE CHAPTER NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY  
GROSSE POINTE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL  
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN**

**ARTICLE I: NAME, PURPOSE, MOTTO AND SYMBOLS**

- Section 1:** The name of this chapter shall be the Cum Laude Chapter of the National Honor Society of Grosse Pointe South High School.
- 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 students of Grosse Pointe South High School.
- Section 3:** The motto of this Chapter is "Noblesse Oblige", the obligation of those of high rank to be honorable and generous.
- Section 4:** Colors are blue and gold, and the yellow rose is the Chapter flower.

**ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP**

- Section 1:** Membership in this chapter shall be known as active and graduate. Active members become graduate members at graduation. Graduate 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
- Candidates eligible for election to this chapter must be members of the junior or senior class
  - To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of one semester at Grosse Pointe South.
  - Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 at the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> full semester for incoming juniors and at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> full semester for incoming seniors. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum scholastic level of achievement for admission to candidacy.
  - Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and GPA standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered based on their In School and Out of School Service and Commitment, Leadership, and Character.

**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 non-administrative faculty members as appointed by the Advisor and approved by the Principal. The chapter advisor shall be a non-voting member of the Faculty Council.
- Section 2:** Prior to selection, the following shall occur:
- Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
  - Students who are eligible scholastically ("candidates") shall be notified via letter home and asked to attend a mandatory informational meeting to pick up the Student Activity Information Form.
    - Students are asked to complete and submit this form within two weeks' time for further consideration for selection.
  - The faculty (teachers, administrators and counselors) shall be requested to evaluate candidates, with whom they have worked with over an extended period of time, determined to be scholastically eligible using Electronic Character Ratings Form provided by the advisor. The numerical scale listed below is used for rating purposes:

4.0.....Outstanding	2.0.....Average
3.5.....Excellent	1.5.....Below Average
3.0.....Very Good	1.0.....Poor
2.5.....Good	0.....Unacceptable

- o The definition of Good Character is based on the following criteria
  - Demonstrates high standards of personal honesty, reliability, and integrity.
  - Shows courtesy, concern and respect for others.
  - Cooperates fully with regulations and directives.
- o The advisor averages the ratings. A student must receive an averaged 3.0 rating for character to be considered for selection.
- The Faculty Council shall review the Student Activity Information Form and Character Ratings in order to determine membership. The five members of the council panel each vote after careful deliberation on each candidate that applies for admission. The faculty council considers the quality, range and variety of activities as well as the time spent in the areas of leadership and service. Service and leadership for the betterment of the school and community should be emphasized by the students as they complete their Student Activity Information Forms. A candidate must receive a yes vote from three of five members of the panel in both Community Service and Leadership. Those receiving a majority vote for both categories from the Faculty Council are offered membership. Each candidate must sign a form stating that she/he will support the NHS constitution and the chapter By-Laws and assume the stated membership responsibilities before being accepted.
  - o **Leadership:** A student must be a current class council elected official. Or, a student may have **two** leadership positions, one of which is being held during the current year. Students elected for a leadership position during their junior year, for their senior year, will be granted that leadership position. Leadership must be an appointed or elected position in which the individual is responsible for the leading and organizing of a group.
  - o **Service (30 hrs):** Service must be unpaid and for the betterment of the school or community. **Service must be completed and documented by a non-profit organization. For example, yard work in the neighborhood, babysitting, and tutoring a friend are not examples of organized community service.**

**Section 3:** The selection of new, active members shall be held in the fall.

**Section 4:** Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony. Attendance is mandatory.

**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.

**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 Cum Laude chapter of the National Honor Society. A member of the National Honor Society is expected to maintain his/her academic standing and provide 30 hours of Service through Tutoring (12 hrs) and verified In School Service opportunities (18 hrs) during both their junior and senior year. A member's character must also be of the highest level.

**Section 2:** If a member's cumulative grade point average falls below the standard in effect when he/she was selected of 3.33, he/she will be given a written warning for a required meeting, and one quarter for improvement. If the cumulative grade point average remains below standard at the end of the warning

period the student will be dismissed from the Cum Laude chapter of the National Honor Society

**Section 3:** Violation of the law or school regulations may result in dismissal of a member. These violations include, but are not limited to, DWI, stealing, destruction of property, cheating, truancy (including excessive tardiness to class and/or unexcused absences), or possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities. A violation of the Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct will result in a requirement of double the Community Service Hours (18 to 36) by the same deadline. A conference/hearing may be requested by either party (Faculty Council or Student) to petition the dismissal.

**Section 4:** In all cases of pending dismissal

- The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the advisor. The member and advisor will discuss the notification in a conference. Situations that involve flagrant violations of school rules or the law may warrant disciplinary action without a warning although a conference/hearing can still be held.
- 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) {A member is given a minimum of 24 hours' notice for a hearing}. 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.
- 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 advisor.
- The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the building principal. The decision of the building principal is final and cannot be appealed.
- 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 5:** 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, secretary, and treasurer.

**Section 2:** Students will be provided the officer responsibilities at an announced meeting. In order to run for office, students must provide the Advisor a single Google Slide with their name, a recent picture, and 5 reasons why they should be elected, at least one week before the next announced meeting, during which voting will take place.

**Section 3:** Student officers shall be elected within the first two meetings of the newly inducted class. All active members are eligible to run for a position as an officer. All active members of the chapter are eligible to vote. A member must be present at the meeting to be elected to office and/or to vote.

**Section 4:** 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 5:** It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings for this chapter and create the agendas at least 48 hours in advance for NHS Council meetings and Executive Board Meetings.

**Section 6:** The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president and shall also keep a record of all attendance at the meetings. They must update these records within 48 hours of the meeting and provide written notice to all absent students within 5 days of the missed meeting.

**Section 7:** The secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings and update the NHS Schoology group within 48 hours of every meeting.

**Section 8:** The treasurer shall keep the record of chapter expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter. They are also responsible for all communication regarding donations and purchases through

third party organizations and the Mother's Club.

**Section 9:** The officers will attend all NHS Council meetings held on the first Monday of each month before school. They will also meet with the advisor on a weekly basis after school. Finally, they will be responsible for attending all Check Points as determined by the schedule set forth by the adviser and officers in collaboration.

## **ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 1:** The executive committee shall consist of the faculty advisor(s) 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 / ATTENDANCE**

**Section 1:** Meetings of this chapter shall be held monthly.

**Section 2:** All chapter members are expected to attend all regularly-scheduled chapter meetings as well as the Fall and Spring Service Project.

**Section 3:** Absences are defined as those which are not exempt under the Grosse Pointe South Attendance Policy.

**Section 4:** Any members who have missed one meeting or mandatory service project will be put on attendance review and notified in writing. Failure to attend two additional meetings or mandatory service projects will result in removal.

**Section 5:** Absence from a Mandatory Service Project will result in an additional two hours added to your required total.

## **ARTICLE VIII: ACTIVITIES**

**Section 1:** The chapter shall determine one (mandatory) service project per semester. Members inducted during their junior year will participate in the spring service project of their junior year and the fall service project their senior year. Members inducted during their senior year will participate in the fall and spring service project.

**Section 2:** 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. Parents and students may not sign for hours. Questionable hours/signatures will be reviewed with the possibility of being voided.

**Section 3:** All Inducted Junior Members are required to complete 30 total hours of service and tutoring combined during their second semester of junior year and again during the first semester of senior year. They are required to complete a minimum of 7 tutoring hours each semester with a max of 17 tutoring hours per semester. The rest of the hours need to come from service opportunities delegated from the advisor via Schoology with the exception of 5 hours which may come from outside opportunities.

Hours not completed during the semester following the Junior induction ceremony can be earned during summer break. For any service hours not completed during that semester, **twice** as many must be earned over summer break. Hours earned over summer break do not have to be officially sanctioned by the Advisor, but must still 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. If a student earns double their School Sanctioned Community Service Hours during their senior year, they will earn a pin in addition to a cord."

If a student chooses to double their School Sanctioned Community Service Hours during their Senior year, they will earn a pin in addition to a cord.

**Section 4:** All Inducted Senior Members are required to complete 10 hours of tutoring and 25 hours of School Sanctioned Service Projects between Induction and Senior Honors Night (Final Check Point).

**Section 5:** All Tutoring must be completed and signed for through your National Honor Society assigned placement. There are no exceptions. Excess tutoring hours can be counted toward Community Service, but Community Service cannot count towards Tutoring.

## **ARTICLE IX: EMBLEM**

**Section 1:** Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the honor cords and/or pins at graduation.

## **ARTICLE X: DUES**

**Section 1:** Annual dues and fees for this chapter shall be \$75.00 as is required by the school for all participants in clubs and activities. If a member has already paid this fee for another activity he/she need not pay again.

**Section 2:** Dues and fees will be payable to the school during fall registration. Students who did not pay at fall registration will pay after the Induction Ceremony.

**Section 3:** Each student will pay a \$30 fee upon acceptance for the program for a T-Shirt worn for all events and volunteer services. Monies raised from the T-Shirt will be used to fund the two mandatory service projects and pay for the cord at graduation.

## **ARTICLE XI: POWERS**

**Section 1:** The chapter advisor 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 XII: AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1:** These By-Laws may be amended by a Majority vote of the Executive Board and Advisor. The exceptions are Articles III and IV (selection and discipline), which are developed by the Advisor with approval of the Principal.

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

**Date:** September 2022

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**Mr. Moussa Hamka**  
Principal

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**Mae Baliatico**  
President

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**Katie Barbour**  
**Advisor**

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**Maddy Zann**  
**Vice President**

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**Cecile Walsh**  
**Secretary**

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**Emily Peacock**  
**Treasurer**