

**CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY  
WHITE OAK HIGH SCHOOL  
OMICRON IOTA LAMBDA  
CHAPTER**

**ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE**

**Section 1 -** The name of this organization shall be the White Oak High School Omicron Iota Lambda Chapter of the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools.

**Section 2 –** The purpose of this organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of White Oak High School.

**Section 3 –** The White Oak High School Chapter of the NHS shall be under the sponsorship and supervision of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), 1904 Association Dr., Reston, VA 22091

**ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1 –** Membership in this chapter is an honor bestowed upon a student. Membership is a privilege, not a right. Selection for membership is by the faculty council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership and service. Once inducted, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate the qualities of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

**Section 2 –** Membership shall be known as *active* and *graduate*. Active members shall become graduate members at graduation. Graduate members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

**Section 3 –** The faculty council shall reserve the right to award honorary membership to school officials, principals, teachers, NHS advisers, or citizens in recognition of outstanding service rendered the school in keeping with the purpose of the National Honor Society.

**Section 4 –** Members who are seniors in good standing are eligible to be nominated by their chapter to compete in the National Honor Society Scholarship Program.

**Section 5 –** Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.

**Section 6 – Eligibility**

a. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be members of the sophomore, junior, or senior class.

b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of one full semester at White Oak High School.

c. Candidates must have a cumulative scholastic average of at least 3.3 on a 4.0 scale, if inducted prior to the 16-17 school year. Candidates must have a cumulative scholastic average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale, if inducted during or after the 16-17 school year. Candidates shall then be evaluated on the basis of service, leadership, and character.

d. \*Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must participate in a UIL academic activity or other academic activity (including but not limited to Debate, One Act Play, Model UN, VASE, FFA competition). \*This requirement is for candidates who will graduate Spring 2022 and after.

**Section 7 –** The selection of new active members shall be held once a year during the second semester of the school year.

**Section 8** – Candidates become members only after being inducted at a special ceremony.

### **ARTICLE III: SELECTION OF MEMBERS**

**Section 1** - The selection of members to the chapter shall be by a majority vote of the faculty council consisting of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be the sixth, non-voting, ex-officio member of the faculty council.

**Section 2** – Prior to selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. Students' discipline records shall be reviewed to determine eligibility. Any student who has been disciplined for an offense for which punishment is ISS, corporal punishment or greater, is not eligible to be considered for membership for that school year.
- c. Students who are eligible according to Article III, Section 2, Parts a and b, shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the National Honor Society Application Form for further consideration for selection.
- d. All faculty and staff members shall be requested to evaluate the eligible candidates' character using the evaluation form provided by the chapter adviser.
- e. The Faculty Council shall review the NHS application forms and faculty evaluations in order to determine membership through a rubric system.

**Section 3** – During the interim period between selection by the Faculty Council and the induction ceremony, students become selected candidates and are expected to maintain the standards by which they were selected.

**Section 4** - Once inducted, selected candidates become active members and are expected to maintain the standards by which they were selected and maintain all obligations of membership.

**Section 5** – An active member in good standing 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 local membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain his or her membership.

**Section 6** – An active member that transfers to another school will be given a letter indicating the status of his or her membership and signed by the principal and faculty adviser.

### **ARTICLE IV: DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL**

**Section 1** – Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service may be considered for dismissal from the White Oak High School chapter of the National Honor Society.

**Section 2** – If a member's cumulative GPA falls below the standard in effect when he or she was selected, he or she will be given a written warning indicating that cumulative GPA must return to the standard required at the time of selection by the end of the current semester. If the cumulative GPA remains below standard at the end of the warning period, the students will be subject to dismissal from the chapter by the Faculty Council.

**Section 3** – If a member fails to perform any of the published obligations of membership, (see Appendix A) he or she will be given a written warning indicating the obligations must have returned to the standard required for membership. If the obligation remains unmet at the end of

the warning period, the student will be subject to dismissal from the chapter by the Faculty Council.

**Section 4** – Violation of the law or violation of the school student conduct of code may result in a 6-month suspension or immediate dismissal of a member, depending on the degree of the violation. If a member receives a 6-month suspension then any future infractions will result in immediate dismissal. All members are subject to drug testing, and immediate dismissal if found positive for drug use. Any member found to have cheated on class work or testing, is subject to immediate dismissal.

**Section 5** – In all cases of impending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the adviser or Faculty Council. The member and adviser will discuss the written notification in a conference. Situations that involve flagrant violations of school rules or the law can warrant disciplinary action without a written warning although a hearing must still be held.
- b. The member will be given the opportunity to respond to the charge against him or her at a hearing before the Faculty Council prior to the vote on dismissal. 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 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.
- d. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards through the school district discipline policy.
- e. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he or she is required to return their membership card and NHS patch. He or she is no longer a member and may not be reconsidered for membership in the National Honor Society.

## **ARTICLE V: OFFICERS**

**Section 1** – The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and historian.

**Section 2** – Student officers shall be elected at the last meeting of each school year. All returning active members are eligible to run for a position as an officer. All active members of the chapter are eligible to vote.

**Section 3** – 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 for this chapter and be responsible for organizing a community project.

**Section 5** – The vice president shall preside in the absence of the president and be responsible for a community project.

**Section 6** – The secretary shall be responsible for a campus project.

**Section 7** – The treasurer shall be responsible for collecting dues.

**Section 8** – The historian shall be responsible for documenting chapter activities and public relations.

## **ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS**

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

**Section 2** – This chapter shall conduct its meetings according to *Robert's Rules of Order*.

**Section 3** – Chapter members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled chapter meetings unless excused beforehand. Failure to attend the monthly meetings without permission of the sponsor, will be subject to review by the faculty council and possible dismissal.

## **ARTICLE VII: ACTIVITIES**

**Section 1** – All members are expected to participate in at least one service project with the chapter and one service project outside of the school chapter.

## **ARTICLE VIII: DUES**

**Section 1** – Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$10.

## **ARTICLE IX: 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.

## **Appendix A: Additional Membership Obligations**

As outlined in the local NHS chapter bylaws, you are a National Honor Society member in good standing through your continued commitment to Scholarship, Character, Leadership and Service by completing the expectations below each year.

1. Attend at least 75% of the chapter meetings.
2. Maintain the local chapter minimum GPA of 3.3 if inducted during or prior to the 2016-2017 school year, or 3.5 if inducted during or after the year of 2016-2017.
3. Participate in UIL academic activity or other academic activity (including but not limited to Debate, One Act Play, Model UN, VASE, FFA competition) if graduating in the spring of 2022 and following years.

4. Actively participate in one or both of the fall or spring NHS service projects.
5. Complete a minimum of 6 volunteer service hours either through the local NHS chapter or another approved community activity. Anything not done through NHS must have proper documentation. These hours must be accumulated during the current school year, or summer preceding the current school year.
6. Dismissal Policy
  - Section 1 – Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service may be considered for dismissal from the White Oak High School chapter of the National Honor Society.
  - Section 2 – If a member’s cumulative GPA falls below the standard in effect when he or she was selected, he or she will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement. If the cumulative GPA remains below standard at the end of the warning period, the students will be subject to dismissal from the chapter by the Faculty Council. GPA is checked when cumulative grades are updated in the counselor’s office. This is usually done twice during the school year.
  - Section 3 – If a member fails to perform any of the published obligations of membership, he or she will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement. If the obligation remains unmet at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to dismissal from the chapter by the Faculty Council.
  - Section 4 – Violation of the law or violation of the school student conduct of code may result in dismissal of a member. All members are subject to drug testing, and immediate dismissal if found positive for drug use. Any member found to have cheated on class work or testing, is subject to immediate dismissal.

If any of the above requirements are not met, you will be notified at the end of each semester. This will require a review of your status as a National Honor Society member by the Faculty Council which may result in your NHS membership being terminated.

Mrs. Cook  
Mrs. Faircloth  
NHS Sponsors