

National Honor Society By-Laws

Bruning-Davenport Unified School

Article I: Name and Purpose

Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be the National Honor Society of Bruning-Davenport Unified 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 Bruning-Davenport Unified School.

Article II: Membership

Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be known as active and graduate. Active members become graduate members upon their 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 of Bruning-Davenport Unified School. Membership is based on the criteria of Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Character.

Section 3. Eligibility:

- a. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be members of the sophomore, junior or senior class of Bruning-Davenport Unified School.
- b. To be eligible for selection, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of at least one semester at Bruning-Davenport Unified School.
- c. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or a 90% GPA. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum scholastic level of achievement for eligibility. All students who can rise in scholarship to or above 3.5 or a 90% GPA may be eligible for selection.
- d. Upon meeting the grade level, grade point minimum, and attendance requirements, candidates shall be considered by the faculty based on their service, leadership and character.

Article III: Selection of Members

Section 1.

The selection process shall be based on a metric of scores from the general faculty. To be rewarded with induction to the NHS, an applicant must achieve an overall score of 28 out of 40 on the faculty evaluation form.

The faculty will rate the student in 8 different categories and then make their own objective determination whether the candidate is a deserved honoree, there are some reservations about the applicant, or that he/she is not prepared to yet be a member of the NHS.

Section 2. Prior to selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine eligibility.
- b. Students who are eligible scholastically (candidates) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the "Candidate Application Form" and a letter of application for further consideration for selection.
- c. The entire faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates in the areas of service, leadership, and character, using an official evaluation form.
- d. The five member Faculty Council shall then review the Candidate Application Forms and the faculty evaluation forms to determine selection.

Section 3. The selection of new, active members shall be held twice a year during the second quarter and fourth quarter of the school year.

Section 4. Candidates who are selected for membership are inducted at a special ceremony held following selection. The active members of the NHS will conduct the ceremony. One student will be selected to give the Words of Inspiration to the new inductees.

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 advisor and administration.

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 Bruning-Davenport Unified School Chapter of the National Honor Society. A member of the National Honor Society is expected to maintain his/her academic standing, a high standard of character, 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 3.5 standard, or 90% GPA, he/she will be given a written warning and a one semester probationary period to raise that average to the minimum. If the cumulative grade point average remains below the minimum at the end of one semester, the student will be subject to further action by the Faculty Council that may include dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3. Violation of the law or school regulations any time during the calendar year can result in dismissal from the chapter. These violations include, but are not limited to, DWI, DUI, theft, destruction of property, cheating, truancy, or possession or the sale of an illegal substance. This also includes being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school sponsored events.

Section 4. Offenders of the school conduct code (such as profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc.) will be given written warning. If a second violation occurs, the Faculty Council will review the situation and decide on the consequences which may involve dismissal of the student.

Section 5. In all cases of disciplinary violations pending dismissal, the following shall occur:

- a. The adviser, administration and Faculty council will meet and discuss the violation and possible consequences. The member will meet with the adviser and discuss the violation. At this time he/she will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal. Situations involving flagrant violations of school rules or the law can warrant disciplinary action without a warning period, although a hearing must be held (see below).
- b. The member will be given the opportunity to respond to the charge against him/her at a hearing before the Faculty Council, the administration and the Adviser prior to the vote on dismissal (in accordance with due process indentified in Article X of the National Constitution). The member will be given the opportunity to present his/her defense either in person or in writing. The Faculty Council will then vote on the action to be taken which may or may not include dismissal from the chapter. 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 administration and then if confirmed, expressed in written form to the student and parent/guardian. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser.
- d. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the administration and the school board (in that order).
- e. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he/she is no longer a member and cannot be considered for reinstatement in the National Honor Society.

Section 6. 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 Bruning-Davenport chapter shall be president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer.

Section 2. Student officers shall be elected at the first meeting of the 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 over the meetings of this chapter.

Section 5. The vice president shall preside over meetings in the absence of the president.

Section 6. The secretary/treasurer shall keep the minutes of each meeting and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence. The secretary/treasurer shall also record all financial transactions of the chapter.

Section 7. If any officer is placed on probation or dismissed by the chapter, they shall immediately relinquish their position as an officer and a new officer shall be elected by the chapter.

Article VI: 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 VII: Meetings

Section 1. Meetings of this chapter will be held as needed

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

Section 3. All chapter members are expected to attend all chapter meetings, unless excused by the advisor.

Article VIII: Activities

Section 1. The chapter shall conduct chapter service activities and fund raisers as suggested by the advisor and voted on by the members.

Section 2. All members are expected to participate in chapter activities unless excused by the advisor.

Section 3. Chapter projects shall fulfill a need within the school or community, have the support of the administration and adviser, be appropriate and educationally defensible, and be organized and conducted properly.

Article IX: Emblem

Section 1. Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regards to the membership standards and member obligations shall have the privilege of wearing the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society.

Section 2. Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return their emblem to the chapter adviser.

Section 3. Chapter members who are seniors in good standing, shall be granted the privilege of wearing the honor stole at graduation.

Article X: Powers

Section 1. The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise chapter activities, as delegated by the school's administration.

Section 2. The school administrator shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

Section 3. These by-laws 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 XI: Amendments

Section 1. These by-laws 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 III and IV (selection and discipline).

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