

Watervliet High School National Honor Society

Ellen Bevins Chapter By - Laws

Induction Process :

Eligibility for the NHS begins in the first quarter of 9th grade and continues until the end of the third quarter in 10th grade. During that period, a candidate must maintain an overall average of 88 or above. In addition, the candidate must exhibit the pillars of character, leadership, scholarship, service. The candidate will be notified in writing by the advisor of their eligibility. They will be required to fill out an application form which will enable the Faculty Council to determine their eligibility. The Faculty Council will review the application forms and they will check the references of each applicant. Afterwards, the Faculty Council will vote on whether or not to accept each candidate. A majority vote of the Faculty Council is required for acceptance. The advisor will notify each candidate in writing of the Faculty Council's decision. All candidates will be required to attend and participate in two induction ceremonies. Once a candidate becomes a member of the NHS, they are required to maintain a quarterly average of an 88 or above, perform 20 hours of community service, uphold the four pillars, participate in and assist in all future induction ceremonies, and attend monthly meetings. Members are allowed a maximum of 3 excused meetings. Members must notify an officer or the advisor, if possible in advance, if they are unable to attend a meeting.

Faculty Council/Advisor :

The Faculty Council consists of 5 faculty members. The Faculty Council will be responsible for the induction of members, the removal of members, and they may offer suggestions and advice to the advisor. The advisor is responsible for overseeing the day to day operations of the NHS , working with the Faculty Council and working with the officers of the NHS. The advisor has no voting rights. He or she may only make recommendations to the Faculty Council.

Officers:

The following positions for officers exist: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Public Relations. Elections are held once a year at the last meeting in May. Members may nominate themselves or another member for a position. A majority vote of the membership is required for each candidate to become an officer. Positions last for 1 school year. In case of a resignation or a dismissal, the advisor may appoint another member to fill the position until the next election is held and nominations can be made. The advisor will meet with the officers to explain their duties and responsibilities.

Community Service : All members of the NHS are required to complete 20 hours of community service per school year. Service opportunities are available at the Watervliet Public Library, the Watervliet Historical Society, soup kitchens, Watervliet Senior Center, religious organizations, and at Watervliet High School. Community service is done on a voluntary basis and is non-paid. If you are a member of Character Education, you can receive credit towards NHS service hours. Community service hours are due in April. Each member must submit a letter from the organization in which they volunteered. The letter will include confirmation of your service by the supervisor of that organization. It will be signed by the supervisor and a contact number should be provided as well.

Discipline and Dismissal By Laws :

- (1) Members who fall below the standards that were the basis for their selection may be removed from the NHS. For the first offense, the member will receive a written warning; however, if their conduct is a direct violation of school rules or the law, a member shall not need to be warned.
- (2) The Faculty Council shall determine when an individual has exceeded a reasonable amount of warnings.
- (3) In all cases pending dismissal, a member shall have the right to a hearing before the Faculty Council. A member accused of a violation will receive a written letter from the advisor. The member will have 10 days upon receipt of the letter to request an appeal. Following the request for an appeal, the member will be notified by the advisor of the time and date of the appeal meeting. At the meeting, the member will be required to present all evidence to the Faculty Council in support of their appeal. The member will be informed of the Faculty Council's decision in writing in 10 days following the appeal meeting.
- (4) For purposes of dismissal, a majority vote of the Faculty Council is required.
- (5) A member who has been dismissed may appeal the decision to the building principal within 5 days upon notification of the decision of the Faculty Council. The building principal will render a decision within 10 days and will inform the individual in writing.
- (6) The building principal's decision is final. The national chapter will not hear any appeals.