

# **National Junior Honor Society By-Laws**

## **Saint Mary's Bryantown**

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **Name and Purpose**

**Section 1-** The name of this chapter shall be the Saint Mary's Bryantown Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society

**Section 2-** The purpose of this organization shall be to create and enthusiasm of scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and citizenship, and to encourage the development of character in students of Saint Mary's Bryantown.

### **ARTICLE II**

#### **Membership**

**Section 1-** Membership is an honor and privilege given to students by the faculty and based upon scholarship, service, leadership, citizenship, and character.

**Section 2-** Eligibility

- a) Candidates eligible for election to the chapter must be in the second semester of sixth grade or grades seven through eighth.
- b) To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidates must have been in attendance for a period at Saint Mary's Bryantown.
- c) Candidates eligible for selection should have a cumulative grade point average of 3.88 or higher
- d) Candidates should also be considered based upon their service, leadership, citizenship, and character.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **Selection of Members**

**Section 1-** The Faculty Council should consist of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be the nonvoting 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 who are scholastically eligible shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the Student A activity Information Form for further consideration for selection
- c) The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official evaluation form provided by the chapter advisor.
- d) The Faculty Council shall review the Student Activity Information Form and faculty evaluations in order to determine membership.

**Section 3-** Selection of new members shall be held once a year in the second semester.

**Section 4-** Candidates only become members when inducted in a special ceremony

**Section 5-** Once inducted, all members are expected to maintain the standards by which they were selected and maintain all obligations of membership

**Section 6-** An active member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers to this school will automatically be accepted for membership. The Faculty Council shall grant the transferring member one semester to maintain the obligations.

**Section 7-** No student with a criminal record shall be considered for selection

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL of MEMBERS**

**Section 1.** Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, service, leadership, character, or citizenship may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the St. Mary's Bryantown Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. A member of the National Junior Honor Society is expected to maintain his/her academic standing 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 standard in effect when he/she was selected (GPA of 3.88), he /she will be given a written warning and a reasonable time period for improvement. If the cumulative grade point average remains below standard at the end of the warning period the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the faculty council that includes consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

**Section 3.** Violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member (see Section 5 below). These violations include, but are not limited to stealing; destruction of property; cheating; truancy; or possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities or in the community.

**Section 4.** Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive written warning notification. A conference may be requested by either party (faculty council or student/parent). If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal.

**Section 5.** Chapter officers, as representatives of the chapter, can be removed from their positions as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the faculty council.

**Section 6-** In all cases of pending dismissal:

a. The member will receive **written notification** from the adviser/faculty council indicating the reason for consideration of dismissal.

b. The member has the **right** to respond to the charge(s) against him/her at a **hearing** before the faculty council prior to any vote on dismissal (in accordance with due process identified in Article X of the National Constitution). The member has the opportunity to present his/her defense either in person or via a written statement presented in lieu of the face-to-face hearing. Following the hearing, 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 presented to the principal for review, and then stated in a letter sent to the student and parents. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser.
- d. The faculty council's decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards according to provisions of the school district discipline policies.
- e. A member who is dismissed or resigns may never again be considered for membership in the National Junior Honor Society.

**Section 7-** 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 the president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer

**Section 2-** Students 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.

**Section 3-** The candidates running for the position shall make it known with two nominations from other members' advisers. The candidate with the most votes shall receive the position.

**Section 4-** It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meeting for this chapter

**Section 5-** The vice president shall preside in the absence of the president and shall also keep a record of members' contributions to leadership and service

**Section 6-** The secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence

**Section 7-** The treasurer shall keep the record of chapter expenses and all other financial transactions of the chapter

## **ARTICLE VI** **Executive Committee**

**Section 1-** The executive committee shall consist of the faulty officer and the chapter officers.

**Section 2-** The executive c committee shall have general charge of the meetings and the business of the chapter, but any action by the executive c committee is subject to the review of the chapter members.

## **ARTICLE VII** **Meetings**

**Section 1-** Meetings of this chapter shall be monthly.

**Section 2-** Additional meetings can be added

**Section 3-** All chapter members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled chapter meetings unless excused.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Activites**

**Section 1-** The chapter shall determine one or more service projects for each year.

**Section 2-** All members shall regularly participate in these projects

**Section 3-** 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

**Section 4-** Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing the participants in an individual service project that reflects his or her particular talents and interests and as approved by the chapter adviser. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute

**Section 5-** The chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Emblem**

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

**Section 2-** Any member who resigns or is expelled from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

**Section 3-** Chapter members who are senior in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the honor cords or other insignia at graduation.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Powers**

**Section 1-** The chapter adviser 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 enforce the rules of the national constitution. The bylaws cannot change the rules in the constitution that were previously established. The Saint Mary's Bryantown chapter will follow all national rules and the byways developed by Saint Mary's Bryantown and all activities

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **Amendments**

**Section 1-** These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the chapter, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given to members at least two weeks prior to the vote.

**Section 2-** Bylaws and amendments must be consistent with the constitution of the National Junior Honor Society

Additional articles can be added as needed.