

BYLAWS

ALPINE CHAPTER NO. 22889

ALPINE HIGH SCHOOL

ALPINE, TEXAS

2018-2019

ARTICLE 1

NAME AND PURPOSE

- Section 1 The name of this chapter, shall be called the Alpine Chapter of the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools, which appears on the Charter granted by the National Council of the National Honor Society duly signed by the members of the National Council, September 20, 1960.
- Section 2 The object 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 all students of Alpine High School.

ARTICLE II

BYLAWS

- Section 1 Each chapter shall amplify sections of NHS Constitution and clarify operating procedures of the chapter. Bylaws must be consistent with NHS Constitution.
- Section 2 Bylaws that have accepted by a majority vote of the chapter and approved by the Faculty Council and the administration become the law of the organization.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

To be eligible for membership the candidate must be a member of those classes (junior, senior) designated as eligible in the chapter bylaws. (Freshmen [*ninth graders*] and sophomores [*tenth graders*] are not eligible.) The Faculty Council shall reserve the right to award honorary membership to school officials, principals, teachers, NHS advisers, adults, students with disabilities, or foreign exchange students in recognition of achievement and/or outstanding service rendered to the school in keeping with the purposes of the National Honor Society. Honorary members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs. Candidates must have been in attendance at the school the equivalent of one semester. (*Note: Some candidates may be ineligible for induction because of the semester ruling*).

Section 1 Membership shall be known as active, honorary, and graduate. Active members shall become graduate members at graduation. Graduate members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 2 Membership of Alpine chapters NO. 22889 is an honor bestowed upon deserving students by the faculty committee and shall be based on the criteria of scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

Section 3 A. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative GPA of 4.0 (out of 4.0); 92 for schools using 100-point scales or letter grades only, (NHS, 2007). This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed and shall be the required minimum level of scholastic achievement for admission to candidacy. All students who can rise in scholarship to or above such standard may be admitted to candidacy for selection to membership.

B. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and GPA standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered based on their services, leadership, and character.

ARTICLE IV

SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1 Selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council consisting of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The faculty council shall screen all candidates that meet the academic requirement and the residency requirement. The principal appoints this council and members may serve consecutive terms. The chapter adviser shall be the sixth, nonvoting, 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 who are eligible scholastically ("candidates") shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the Student 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 adviser.
- D. The Faculty Council shall review the Student Activity Information Form and Faculty Evaluations in order to determine membership.
- E. The Faculty Council will determine membership based on involvement in activities and volunteer service hours, which should exceed 15 hours as a junior, and 20 hours as a senior.

Section 3 The Selection of new active members shall be held once a year during the Fall semester of the school year. (Alternative or additional selection period may be added.)

Section 4 Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

- Section 5 Once selected and inducted, all members are expected to maintain the standards by which they were selected and maintain all obligations of membership.
- Section 6 Graduates must be a good standing member of the NHS in order to wear the ceremonial stole/cord at graduation.
- Section 7 An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of his or her membership and signed by the principal or chapter adviser.
- Section 8 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 or her membership. *Note: the selection process used at the local level may vary from the procedure outlined above; however, such variations must still conform to the national constitution.*

ARTICLE V

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 Alpine chapter of the National Honor Society. A member of the National Honor Society is expected to maintain academic standing and take an active role in service and leadership to school and community.
- Section 2 If a member's cumulative GPA falls below the standard 92 in effect when selected, the student 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 student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council, which may include consideration for dismissal from the chapter.
- Section 3 If a member fails to perform any of the published obligations of membership; a written warning and a time period for improvement will be issued to the student. If the obligation remains unmet at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council, which may include dismissal from the chapter.
- Section 4 Violation of the law or school regulations as outlined in the Student Code of conduct for Alpine High School can result in the dismissal of a member. These Violations include, but are not limited to, DWI, stealing; destruction of property; cheating; truancy; or possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities.
- Section 5 Members who commit offences against the school will be notified by a written warning. (Such as use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absence, excessive tardiness, etc. A conference may be requested by (Faculty Council, student, or parent). If a member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal.

Section 6

In all cases of pending 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 (see below).
- B. The member will be given the opportunity to respond to the charge 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 adviser.
- D. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards through the school district discipline policy.
- E. Student membership in the National Honor Society is terminated and cannot be reconsidered once a student is dismissed or resigns.

Section 8

- A. Members should always use the Internet, network resources, and online sites in a courteous and a respectful manner.
- B. Members should also remember **not to post anything online that they wouldn't want parents, teachers, or future colleges or employers to see**. Once something is online, it's out there—and can sometimes be shared and spread in ways you never intended. If any type of social media is used inappropriately, the member is subject to disciplinary action by the advisor which may or may not include dismissal from the chapter.
- C. If you see a message, comment, image, or anything else online that makes you concerned for your personal safety, bring it to the attention of an adult (teacher or staff if you're at school; parent if you're using the device at home) immediately.
- D. Cyberbullying will not be tolerated. Harassing, dissing, flaming, denigrating, impersonating, outing, tricking, excluding, and cyberstalking are all examples of cyberbullying. Don't be mean. Don't send emails or post comments with the intent of scaring, hurting, or intimidating someone else.
- E. Engaging in these behaviors, or any online activities intended to harm (physically or emotionally) another person, will result in severe disciplinary action and loss of membership. In some cases, cyberbullying can be a crime. Remember that your activities are monitored and retained by others

Section 7

In lieu of dismissal, the Faculty Council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE VI

CHAPTER OFFICERS

- Section 1 The officers of this chapter shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. Candidate selection must have been members in good standing for one (1) full year in order to be eligible for office.
- Section 2 A majority of member's vote cast shall be necessary to elect any officer of this chapter.
- Section 3 It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings of this chapter.
- Section 4 The vice-president shall fill the chair of the president in his absence. Additional office duties may include reporter, photographer, public relations officer and other assigned duties as recommended from sponsor/faculty council.
- Section 5 The chapter secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings, a record of all business, and all records on file.
- Section 6 The treasurer shall receive and disperse all funds of the chapter and shall keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements in accordance with school regulations.

ARTICLE VII

MEETINGS

- Section 1 The meeting of this chapter shall be held during the school year on days designated by the sponsor and approved by the principal.
- Section 2 The officers of the chapter shall be elected at the last meeting of the year. These newly elected officers then, escort the graduates during the May graduation ceremonies.
- Section 3 All meetings shall be open and shall be held under the supervision of the sponsor or principal and conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE VIII

- Section 1 The annual induction ceremony shall be held in the fall. It shall be a public ceremony, formal in nature, that gives proper recognition to the diligence and hard work each inductee has put forth in his school year.
- Section 2 Each member of this chapter shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society of Secondary School Principals.

- Section 3 Each Member agrees that, whether the emblem comes to as a gift, a personal purchase, an award, or from whatever source, the title to the emblem shall rest with the chapter of which he is a member, and, therefore, the emblem can, on motion of the Faculty Council, be commandeered. Furthermore, members agree that their acceptance of the emblem shall be considered affirmation of this stipulation in regards to the title of the emblem.

ARTICLE IX

DUES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- Section 1 Dues are at \$10.00 per year. Dues may be assessed to new members.
- Section 2 Money shall be earned each year to pay for the annual installation ceremony and to fund a scholarship, presented to a NHS graduate/s.

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.

ARTICLE XI

AMENDMENTS

- Section 1 These bylaws may be amended by a vote of the chapter, provided that notice of the proposed amendment has been given to members at least one month prior to the vote. The exceptions are Articles IV and V (selection and discipline), which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the principal.
- Section 2 Bylaws and amendments must be consistent with the constitution of the National Honor society. Additional articles can be added as needed.

ARTICLE XII

PRIOR AMENDMENTS

Amendments I, II, IV, V will remain as part of the by-laws for documentation purposes only. These will not serve as bylaws for the NHS chapter Alpine High School.

*Amendment I (Ratified May 14, 1991)

Students eligible for membership must be working on the advanced academic seal.

* Amendment II (Ratified April, 1996)

The minimum cumulative grade average necessary for selection to NHS is 91. The minimum grade average to maintain membership is 90.

*Amendment III (Ratified April, 1996)

Each member must participate in a least two activities that indicate the student has been involved in service projects or has taken responsibilities in an organization. These two activities should not be closely related and should indicate the student has diverse areas of interest.

*Amendment IV (Ratified March 23, 1999)

The faculty council has the discretion to count or not count certain courses in the average used for membership. (This was done primarily to exclude courses that give blanket 100's as 6 weeks grades. I.e. band, P.E. Cheerleading, Athletics, etc.).

(Special note): *A student cannot be held accountable for the way a course is graded and since the student, parent, and the school sign off on the approved schedule, for NHS to disallow the inclusion of such courses, it would be contradicting the officially accepted course load for a given student – and that position goes beyond any reasonable expectation of the role of the Faculty council.*

*Amendment V (Ratified, April, 1999) (Replacing Amendment I ratified in 1991)

Student eligible for membership should be taking course toward the “New distinguished Achievement Program” as described in the Student Handbook.

*Effective August 2019, new inductees must have a 95 minimum GPA to be selected for Alpine High School National Honor Society. Amended September 13, 2018 by member vote.