

Glenda Dawson High School National Honor Society Bylaws

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1: Name

The name of this chapter shall be the Glenda Dawson High School Chapter of the National Honor Society.

Section 2: Purpose

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 Glenda Dawson High School.

ARTICLE II: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

The 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 chapter adviser shall be the sixth, nonvoting, ex officio member of the Faculty Council. The Glenda Dawson High School Chapter of NHS has established strict criteria for membership. The criteria are as follows:

Criteria 1: Grade Level

To be eligible for membership, the candidate must be a sophomore or junior at Glenda Dawson High School at the time of candidacy, and must be eligible to become a junior or senior, respectively at Dawson High School the following school year. A candidate must also have been in attendance at the school the equivalent of one semester, as put forth in the official NHS Handbook (Article II).

Criteria 2: GPA

To be eligible for membership, candidates must be in the top 15% of their graduating class at the time of application.

Criteria 3: Conduct

Candidates must not have received out of school suspension or ALA, or been involved with any activity requiring the intervention of law enforcement at any time during high school prior to application.

Criteria 4: Service, Leadership, and Character

Applicants will be judged on the basis of service, leadership, and character, as put forth in the official NHS Handbook (Article II).

Candidates who meet the required criteria for membership will receive an application when they become available.

An active member of the Nation Honor Society who transfers to Glenda Dawson High School will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter. The transferring member must provide a document from their previous chapter advisor stating their membership status. 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.

ARTICLE III: DUTIES OF MEMBERS

Membership in the National Honor Society is an honor, and members are expected to set an example for others. Members are expected to abide by the standards put forth in Article VIII, Section 1 of the official NHS Handbook. They are also required to maintain the GPA and conduct requirements as set forth in the selection criteria (Article II), fulfill service hour requirements, pay dues, participate in chapter fundraisers, and regularly attend chapter meetings.

Section 1: Member GPA

Members are to maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or above.

If the member is able to maintain a GPA of 5.0 or above, he or she will be eligible to wear the academic honor cord at graduation.

Section 2: Member Dues

Dues are \$5.00 a year per member and are due by the last chapter meeting in the first semester of the school year. Members can be placed on probation if they have not paid their dues in full by the deadline.

Section 3: Service Hours

Members are expected to perform 20 hours of service per year. The first 10 hours (5 inside and 5 outside) must be performed prior to the end of the first semester. Inside hours are obtained by participating in activities on the Dawson High School campus or sponsored by Dawson High School off campus. Outside hours are obtained by participating in any other community service off campus and not related to Dawson High School.

Summer activities may count towards your 5 inside and 5 outside service hour requirements for the first semester.

All excess service hours will accumulate towards the opportunity to wear the service honor cord at graduation.

Service honor cord requirements are based on the grade level when the member was inducted, and are as follows:

Year Inducted	Excess Hours Required
Sophomore Year	50
Junior Year	25

Members are expected to be responsible for tracking their own hours. Each NHS member is responsible for making sure that he or she follows the correct procedure for documenting and submitting service hours. The exact procedure for submitting hours and gathering receipts will be up to the discretion of the officers, and must be decided upon prior to the first general meeting of the year. A member may use service hour receipts to protest improperly documented hours to the NHS advisors only.

Section 4: Service Projects

Participation in one NHS service project is mandatory and will count towards outside service hours.

Section 5: Fundraisers

Members are required to participate in at least one Dawson High School National Honor Society fundraiser per school year. Participation in NHS fundraisers will not count towards service hours.

Section 5: Meetings

There will be at least one pair of general meetings per month, with one afternoon and one morning meeting. Service opportunities and other chapter activities shall be announced to members at these meetings. It will be the members' responsibility to attend meetings and to get any required information about chapter activities. If a member is absent it will be the member's responsibility to get the chapter meeting information. If a member has an excused absence from school on both days of a chapter meeting in the same month, that member will be excused from that month's meeting. In order to receive an excused absence, the NHS member must bring the excused absence slip from the school's registrar to the chapter advisors. Members are only allowed to have one unexcused absence from a chapter meeting per semester.

ARTICLE IV: RESIGNATION OR DISMISSAL OF MEMBERS

In accordance with the official NHS Constitution, members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership, its benefits, and must return their emblem to the chapter advisor.

Section 1: Probation

A member on probation will be notified in writing. The member has until the date listed on the notification to correct a violation. If the violation is not corrected by the deadline, the member's status in the National Honor Society shall be reviewed and may result in a dismissal from the chapter. Members on probation will not be eligible to wear the academic or service honor cords at graduation. The following offenses will result in an immediate review for probation:

1. Failure to comply with the duties of its members, as set forth in Article III (All Sections)

Section 2: Dismissal

A member being considered for dismissal will be notified in writing. The member will once again be notified in writing upon the decision of the Faculty Council.

The following offenses will result in an immediate review for dismissal:

1. Possession of drugs/alcohol either at school or in the community.
2. Being directly or indirectly involved in any incident that requires law enforcement to intervene.
3. Expulsion or suspension from school or being assigned to ALA or ISS (other than for dress code violation).
4. Cheating on a major grade.
5. Failing to correct offenses that have caused the member to be placed on probation within the time allotted to the member.
6. Members have limited warnings during their membership and in the case of flagrant violation of school rules or the law, a warning is not required for dismissal, but a hearing will still be held. (7.1 under the official NHS Handbook)

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

The officers of NHS shall maintain and update all records of hours and dues, plan and organize community service activities, and handle all bureaucratic duties not requiring the school administration or the chapter advisor. The NHS officers are also asked to keep a notebook throughout the year to pass on to the next year's officers.

Section 1: Officer Positions

Any member running for office must be in good standing with the society. This means the member cannot be on probation at the time of elections.

The core officer positions shall be as follows: President, Vice President, and two general Officer positions. The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

President

The duties of the President shall be to:

1. Preside over all meetings.
2. Preside over any officer and special meetings.
3. Prepare an agenda and set up for the general meetings. Agendas should be submitted to the chapter advisor one week before a general meeting.
4. Assist in leading and planning all NHS group community service projects.
5. Assist in planning and implementing fundraising for NHS.
6. Assist in planning, setting up, and working at the induction ceremony.

Vice President

The duties of the Vice President shall be to:

1. Run meetings if the President is unavailable.
2. Write and submit approved NHS announcements to the office.
3. Assist in leading and planning all NHS group community service projects.
4. Assist in planning, setting up, and working at the induction ceremony.
5. Assume the duties of the President if the President is absent or unable to perform his or her duties.
6. Maintain a document for volunteer opportunities each month. This document must be submitted to the data manager and chapter advisor one week before a general meeting.

Officers

The duties of the two general officers shall be to:

1. Help plan agendas for general meetings
2. Record all officer and special meetings
3. Keep the minutes for chapter meetings and submit them to the Data Manager and chapter advisor no later than one week following a chapter meeting.
4. Maintain records of all chapter meeting attendance, dues, and service hours performed by members. Updates should be submitted to the Data Manager and chapter advisor no later than one week following a chapter meeting.
5. Be responsible for all official chapter correspondence.
6. Assist and plan all fundraising and banquets.
7. Keep a detailed record of all fundraising projects.
8. Document and keep a record of any approved amendments to the bylaws.

Section 2: Elections

Elections shall be held once per year during either the month before or the month of the induction ceremony. Elections shall be held during general meetings and all members must be given the opportunity to vote. No member is required to vote, however, votes will be accepted only during the general meeting when elections are being held.

Note: Graduating seniors are not allowed to vote in officer elections.

Candidates

Candidates must fill out an application and may make a speech at the election meeting. NHS Members will vote using a weighted system and four officer positions will be earned by the four candidates who receive the highest scores. The candidate with the highest score will become the President. The candidate with the second highest score will be the Vice-President. The candidates receiving the third and fourth highest scores will be Officers.

ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Dawson High School NHS Bylaws may be proposed by the chapter advisor or any of the officers. There are two possible methods in getting amendments approved. The exceptions are about selection and discipline of members, which are developed by the Faculty council with the approval of the Principal as put forth in the official NHS Handbook (Article XII, Section 1).

Method 1: Majority Vote

This method is the standard method where the 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 one month prior to the vote.

Method 2: Officer Vote

This method is an option only if the amendments do not affect current members. Voting shall take place among the officers and the chapter advisors. Current members shall be notified of any approved amendments and the fact that they are not affected by them.