

BYLAWS OF THE MARY WELCH CHAPTER
Of the
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY
Bandera High School

ARTICLE I:
NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be the Mary Welch Chapter of the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools.

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 students at Bandera High School.

ARTICLE II:
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be known as active and graduate. Active members become graduate members at graduation. The graduate members have no vote.

Section 2. Membership in this chapter is an honor bestowed upon deserving students by the faculty and shall be based on the criteria of Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character.

Section 3. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of one semester at Bandera High School.

Section 4. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be members of the sophomore, junior, or senior class. ~~Candidates eligible for election to this chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (out of 4.0; unweighted grade point average).~~ This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be required minimum scholastic level of achievement for admission to candidacy. All students who can rise in scholarship or above such standard may be admitted to candidacy for selection for membership. Their eligibility shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character. Meeting the scholastic requirement is one-fourth of the total membership qualifications and does not ensure an invitation to join.

ARTICLE III:
SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. The final 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 advisor(s) shall be non-voting, ex-officio member(s) of the Faculty Council.

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

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. Students who are eligible scholastically shall be notified and asked to complete the Student Activity Information Form for further consideration for selection.
- c. The faculty shall be requested to comment on candidates determined to be scholastically eligible.

- d. The Student Activity Information Form and faculty comments shall be reviewed by the Faculty Council.

Section 3. The selection of active members shall be held once a year during the second semester of the school year.

Section 4. 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 signed by the principal.

Section 5. An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter. This transfer member will attain within *one semester* and then maintain the membership requirements for this chapter in order to retain his/her membership.

**ARTICLE IV:
DISMISSAL**

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service may be dismissed from the Mary Welch Chapter of the National Honor Society. A member of the National Honor Society is expected to maintain 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 effect when he/she was selected (~~3.0~~), he/she will be given written warning and a time period of six weeks for improvement. If the cumulative grade point average remains below ~~3.0~~ at the end of the warning period the student may be dismissed from the chapter.

Section 3. Candidates shall be promptly warned in writing of possible dismissal if they receive two or more unexcused absences for any combination of the following: failure to participate in the chapter service projects, failure to complete the individual service projects, failure to attend the regular meetings of the chapter, failure to participate in any activity the chapter deems appropriate. Failure to pay dues will also result in a warning letter.

Section 4. Violation of criminal law or school regulations can result in 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. Offenders of the school conduct code 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 dismissed.

Section 6. In the case of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification of the reason for possible dismissal from the advisor(s)/Faculty Council. The member and advisor(s) will discuss the written notification in a conference with a third party present.
- b. The member will be offered a hearing with the Faculty Council prior to dismissal (in accordance with due process of law). The member has the opportunity to present his/her defense. The Faculty Council will then vote on whether to dismiss.

- c. A letter of dismissal will be sent to the principal, student, and parents if the student is dismissed. Dismissed members must surrender ant membership emblems to the advisor(s).
- d. The member may appeal the Faculty Council's decision to the principal.
- e. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he/she is no longer a member and may never again be considered a member in the National 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 president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, parliamentarian, and historian.

Section 2. Student officers shall be elected at the last meeting before the spring induction. All returning members are eligible for nomination for office. Candidates shall be nominated and seconded from the floor and may run for only one office. Election shall be by secret ballot at the subsequent meeting.

Section 3. A majority vote shall be necessary to elect any officer in 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 at the meetings 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 the meetings and be responsible for correspondence.

Section 7. The treasurer shall keep the records of business expenses and dues.

Section 8. The parliamentarian shall act as advisor to the officers and to members pertaining to parliamentary procedure and the provisions in the bylaws. The parliamentarian will maintain attendance records and will be in charge of activities designated by the president.

Section 9. the duties of the historian shall be to report all activities of the chapter, when appropriate, to the local news media or to the school.

**ARTICLE VI:
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Section1. The executive committee shall consist of the faculty advisor(s) and the chapter officers.

Section2. 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 chapter members.

**ARTICLE VII:
MEETINGS**

Section 1. Meetings of this chapter shall be monthly, unless otherwise dictated by the Executive Council.

Section 2. This chapter shall conduct its meetings according to Roberts' Rules of Order.

**ARTICLE VIII:
ACTIVITIES**

Section 1. The chapter shall determine one or more service projects for the 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 and participating in an individual service project which reflects his/her particular talents and interests and as approved by the chapter advisor(s). This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all the members contribute.

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

**ARTICLE IX:
EMBLEM**

Section 1. Each member of this chapter shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by National Honor Society.

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

**ARTICLE X:
DUES**

Section 1. Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$10.00.

Section 2. Dues will be payable as directed by the Executive Council.

**ARTICLE XI:
SCHOLARSHIP NOMINATION**

Section 1. The advisor(s) and faculty council shall nominate two senior candidates to represent the chapter in National Honor Society scholarship competition.

**ARTICLE XII:
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 one month prior to the vote. *The exceptions are Articles III and IV, which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the Principal.*

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

Reviewed May 2018

**ARTICLE XIII:
FUNDRAISERS**

Section1. The local chapter of the Mary Welch National Honor Society is entitled to a maximum of two fundraisers per school year to be in compliance with Bandera ISD policy.

AMENDMENTS

#1: Change Article II, Section 4. Sentence 2 should read: Candidates for election to this chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 4.0 on a weighted scale.

#2: Change Article VIII, Section 6 should read: In order for members of this chapter to fulfill their duties as leaders and workers for the better good of the community, each member must record a minimum of 12 service hours a semester. These hours can be obtained through a combination of chapter activities or independent activities, but must be recorded prior to the end of each semester. The previously stated characteristics of the activities will remain the same and they shall continue to be publicized in a positive manner.