

Constitution

for the
Lee Ray Berndt Chapter
of the
National Honor Society
Of Shepherd High School
7842 Shepherd Rd, Shepherd, MT 59079



Article I: Name and Purpose

- Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be the Lee Ray Berndt 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.
- Section 2. The object of this chapter shall be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership and to encourage the development of character in all students of Shepherd High School.

Article II: Membership

- Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be based upon Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Character.
- Section 2. Membership of this chapter shall be known as provisional, active and graduate. The graduate members have no vote. Active members become graduate members at graduation. Provisional members, if they maintain high standards, may become active members in their second year.
- Section 3. Members of the sophomore, junior or senior classes may be selected as provisional members of the National Honor Society if they satisfy all the requirements for membership. Such provisional members shall have voice and vote in the chapter but may not hold office.

- Section 4. Candidates shall have spent at least four consecutive progress reports in this school, and be members of the sophomore, junior or senior class. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative scholarship average of 3.00. *As of fall 2015, a minimum cumulative scholarship of 3.25 shall be required for candidates to be eligible for selection to the chapter. All duly enrolled students who can rise in scholarship to or above such standard may be admitted to candidacy for election to membership. Their eligibility shall then be considered on their Service, Leadership, and Character.
- Section 5. Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.
- Section 6. Any member who falls below the standards which were the basis of their selection shall be promptly warned. If, during the next regular semester grading period of the school, the member fails to meet the standards used as basis for their selection to the Society, their case shall be passed upon by the faculty council. A National Honor Society member must maintain the standards for membership in order to retain membership. A member will be allowed only one warning period. Once a member is dismissed, he/she is never again eligible for membership in the National Honor Society.
- 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/her membership and signed by the principal.

ARTICLE III: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

- Section 1. The selection of members to this chapter of the National Honor Society shall be by a faculty council, consisting of the principal and members of the faculty. In no case shall there be fewer than five teachers, who are to be chosen by the principal.
- Section 2. A description of the selection procedures shall be published in an official school publication that is widely available in a timely fashion to all students and parents of the school. The selection procedure shall be determined by the Faculty Council and shall be consistent with the rules and regulations of NHS.
- Section 3. Induction of new members shall be held annually at a ceremony within the first semester following the selection process.
- Section 4. An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for probationary membership in this chapter. Transfer members must meet the new chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

- Section 1. The officers of this chapter shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and historian.
- Section 2. A majority of votes cast shall be necessary to elect any officer in this chapter.

ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of the officers of the chapter and the advisor.

- Section 2. The executive committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its business meetings, make recommendations to the chapter, and determine and perform such other duties as are specified in the chapter bylaws. All actions and recommendations of the executive committee shall be subject to the review of the chapter members.
- Section 3. The executive committee shall have the responsibility for ensuring that chapter activities and procedures follow school policy and regulations.

ARTICLE VI: SUPERVISION

- Section 1. The activities of this chapter shall be subject to the majority vote of the members and must have the approval of the chapter advisor.
- Section 2. The chapter advisor shall supervise all chapter activities and meetings.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

- Section 1. The regular meetings of this chapter shall be held monthly, with a minimum of once a month, during the school year on days designated by the advisor.
- Section 2. The officers of the chapter shall be elected at the last regular meeting of the year.
- Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the president and/or advisor.
- Section 4. This chapter shall conduct its meetings according to Robert's Rules of Order in all points not expressly provided for in the constitution of this chapter.

ARTICLE VIII: OFFICIAL INSIGNIA

- Section 1. This organization shall have an official emblem. The emblem shall be uniform and its distribution and rules for its use shall be determined by the NASSP (National Association of Secondary School Principals) Board of Directors.
- Section 2. Each provisional, active, or graduate member in good standing with the chapter shall be entitled to wear this emblem.
- Section 3. Any member who resigns or is dismissed shall return the emblem to the chapter advisor.
- Section 4. All insignia must be procured from the national office of the National Honor Society.
- Section 5. The motto of the National Honor Society shall be *Noblesse Oblige*.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the chapter, provided that the proposed amendment has been approved by the Faculty Council and that notice to members has been given at least one meeting prior to the meeting at which it is to be voted upon.

ARTICLE X: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL

- Section 1. The Faculty Council, in compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Honor Society, shall determine the procedure for dismissal. A written description of the dismissal procedures shall be available to interested parties.

- Section 2. Members who fall below the standards that were the basis for their selection shall be promptly warned in writing by the chapter advisor and given a reasonable amount of time to correct the deficiency. In the case of flagrant violation of school rules or law, a member does not have to be warned.
- Section 3. A member may have no more than two unexcused absences per year of membership. After the second unexcused absence, the member will be notified in writing of their danger of being dismissed from the National Honor Society. Upon the third unexcused absence, the member will be subject to dismissal by the Faculty Council. The definition of unexcused absences will follow the school handbook policy.
- Section 4. For purposes of dismissal, a majority vote of the Faculty Council is required.
- Section 5. A member who has been dismissed may appeal the decision of the Faculty Council to the principal and thereafter under the same rules for disciplinary appeals in the school district.
- Section 6. NASSP shall hear no appeals in dismissal cases.

APPROVED 10/30/2014