

The Piarist School
National Honor Society
Local Bylaws

Article I: We are the Piarist School Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS).

Article II: The purpose of this chapter of the NHS is to acknowledge students who have shown exceptional qualities of scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

The chapter shall also serve the purpose of enhancing our school and our community with at least one service project per year.

Article III: The society advisor has the power to nominate students for admission into the society.

The Faculty Council has the power to accept or reject students for membership based on the criteria listed in Article IV.

Article IV: Membership into the Piarist Chapter of the NHS (as per the National Constitution)

1. According to the Constitution, only those students who have attended the school the equivalent of one semester may be considered for membership. This period is necessary for students to establish themselves and for the faculty to get to know them.
2. Membership may be open to qualified sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The Faculty Council may decide to choose only one or a combination of these classes.
3. Academic requirements must be the same for all candidates in all classes.
4. There can be no specific quota or percentage of members per class

Criteria

1. The Faculty Council selects students who demonstrate OUTSTANDING performance in all four criteria of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.
2. Minimum GPA of 3.0
3. Leadership –
 - Resourceful in making suggestions
 - Demonstrates initiative in promoting school activities
 - Exercises positive influence on peers in upholding school ideals
 - Contributes ideas that improve the civics life of the school
 - Is able to delegate responsibilities

- Exemplifies positive attitudes
- Inspires positive behavior in others
- Demonstrates academic initiative
- Successfully holds school offices or responsibilities, conducts business efficiently, demonstrates reliability and dependability
- Is a leader in the classroom, at work, and in other school activities
- Is thoroughly dependable in any responsibility accepted
- Is willing to uphold a loyal school attitude

4. Service

- Volunteers and provides dependable and well organized assistance, is gladly available, and willing to sacrifice
- Works well with others, is willing to take on difficult or inconspicuous responsibilities
- Cheerfully and enthusiastically renders any requested service to the school
- Is willing to represent the class or school in competition
- Does committee and staff work without complaint
- Participates in some activity outside of school that helps others
- Mentors persons in the community or students at other schools
- Shows courtesy by assisting visitors, teachers, and students

5. Character

- Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously
- Consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior (cheerfulness, friendliness, poise, stability)
- Upholds principles of morality and ethics
- Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty and reliability
- Regularly shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others
- Has powers of concentration, self-discipline, and sustained attention as shown by perseverance and application to students
- Manifests truthfulness in acknowledging obedience to rules, avoiding cheating in written work, and showing unwillingness to profit by the mistakes of others
- Actively helps rid the school of bad influences or environment

Article V: Students will be nominated by letter within the first month of the Spring semester (during the month of January). An application deadline will be listed in that letter. Students not responding by the end of the school day of that deadline will not be considered for admission.

Selection Process: Students' applications will be reviewed by a Faculty Council. A nominated student must have a clear majority vote (3 out of 5) to be accepted or rejected. Each Council member will initial their written vote on the final voting sheet. Any negative votes must have at least one written reason for the vote.

Notification Process: Students will receive notification of their selection or rejection by letter within one month of their application.

Dismissal Process: Should any member have a GPA lower than 3.0 in ANY given quarter that student will be put on probation from the NHS. Should said student's grade remain below a 3.0 for two consecutive quarters that student will be dismissed from the NHS.

Members falling below the standards which were the basis for their selection shall be warned in writing and given a reasonable time to correct the deficiency, except that in the case of flagrant violation of school rules or civil laws a member does not necessarily have to be warned.

Once a student has been dismissed they will not be eligible for readmission into the Piarist Chapter of the NHS.

Article VI: There will be at least four chapter meetings during the course of the school year. These meetings will be conducted by the president (or vice president should the president be unavailable).

A special induction ceremony will be held during the Spring semester. The date and location will be announced at least a week in advance.

Special meetings may be called periodically throughout the year for various reasons including service project planning, fund raising, or other needs. Should a special meeting be called, an announcement will be made the day of the meeting or each member will be informed verbally by the president or vice president.

Questions of order will be referenced by *Robert's Rules of Order*. Members must attend at least three of the four meetings (unless they receive an excused absence for the day of the meeting).

Article VII: It is the duty of the advisor to ensure that the bylaws are followed, to select the date of the induction ceremony, to see that all possible candidates are given the appropriate forms to fill out for membership, and to see that all candidates are informed (by letter) of their admission or rejection as per Faculty Council decision within a month of the application deadline.

Officers and their duties

Officers will be elected at the last meeting prior to the induction ceremony by secret ballot. Candidates will be notified immediately following the voting.

The office of president may only be held by a junior or senior member who has been a member for at least one year. The president is responsible for calling the meetings to order, running the meetings professionally, and organizing at least one service project per year with the vice president.

The office of vice president may be held by any NHS member in good standing. The vice president is responsible for taking over for the president in the event that he or she is unable to complete the duties of the office. The vice president is also responsible for organizing at least one service project per year with the president.

Other offices may include treasurer, secretary, chaplain, or public relations officers.

Treasurer may be held by any NHS member in good standing. The treasurer is responsible for any and all money collected, distributed, or donated by the Piarist chapter of the NHS.

Secretary may be held by any NHS member in good standing. The secretary is responsible for keeping minutes of all meetings, projects, and/or special events.

Chaplain may be held by any NHS member in good standing. The chaplain is responsible for opening and closing in prayer at Piarist NHS events.

Public Relations officer may be held by any NHS member in good standing. The PR officer is responsible for creation and dispersal of any communications between the society and the public. Any information created must be approved by the advisor and the principal before being released to the public.

The Faculty Council will be made up of five teachers of The Piarist School. Should there be a vacancy on the Council it will be filled per nomination by the principal and approval by the remaining Faculty Council. The school principal and chapter advisor are nonvoting members.

Article VIII: Officers will be nominated during the first regular meeting after the selection of new members. They will be elected by a secret ballot vote. The votes will be counted by the advisor and at least one member of the Faculty Council. The winners will be announced the same day of the vote. In the event of a tie, a decision will be made by the Faculty Council.

Should an office become vacant during the year, the advisor will call a special meeting at which time an election will be held in accordance with the above policy.

Any officer not fulfilling their duties will be warned in writing by the advisor. If the problem is not corrected, the officer may be dismissed by a majority vote of the Faculty Council.

Article IX: Questions of order will be referenced by *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Article X: These bylaws will be read and approved by the members of the Faculty Council. A copy of these bylaws will be kept in the office of The Piarist School, in the chapter's files, and will be published on one of the school's websites for viewing.

Article XI: Should the need arise for a change of these bylaws, the Faculty Council will vote and a 3/5 majority shall pass.

Faculty Council

Advisor: Jennifer Shepherd

Principal: Fr. Thomas Carroll

Fr. David Powers

Natasha Collins

Ranetta Howard

Ravin Fields

Heather Owens