



Mesquite High School

May 5, 2011

Dear Skeeter,

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of the National Honor Society. NHS is a selective organization that honors outstanding scholastic achievement and promotes character, leadership, and service. **The next induction for NHS members will be held on October 13, 2011 and participation in induction is mandatory for membership. Please note that the official information packets for admission will not be available until next school year, August 2011. This summer packet is just to give students an idea of the expectations.** Listed below are some helpful hints as what is necessary to be considered as a member of the MHS chapter of NHS as stated in the by-laws:

Election of Members:

- Candidates must have spent at least one semester in Mesquite High School and shall be members of the sophomore, junior, or senior classes.
- Candidates eligible for consideration as members must be enrolled in at least four academic classes and must have a cumulative academic average of 90 or above. The scholastic candidacy does not guarantee membership in the chapter.
- Further eligibility shall be considered on service, leadership, and character. Candidates must not have more than one citizenship grade of B or any citizenship grade below a B in any class during the previous semester.
- In addition, candidates must provide proof of 25 hours of school community service, dated within a year of the date of induction. **Any service hours over a year old (from the time of submission date on September 16, 2011) will not be considered.**

You must meet all requirements for admission into NHS. Members will be selected by a faculty council in September, 2011 on the basis of grades, citizenship, leadership, and service. **Attached you will find a more detailed version of the by-laws, a copy of the community service record sheet, and ideas for volunteerism.**

If you have any questions, please see (in room A-13), email (mhix@mesquiteisd.org), or call (972-882-7800, ext. 6033) **Ms. Hix**, sponsor of Mesquite High School's chapter of the National Honor Society.

Again, thank you for your interest,

Mesquite High School
National Honor Society

**Bylaws of the
Mesquite High School Chapter of the National Honor Society
Mesquite, Texas**

Article I: Name and Purpose

Section I: The name of this chapter shall be the Mesquite High School 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 Honor Council.

Section II: The purpose of this chapter shall be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship; to stimulate a desire to render service; to promote worthy leadership; to develop loyal student citizenship; to serve faithfully one's school, community, and country; and to instill exemplary qualities of character in the students of Mesquite High School.

Article II: Election of Members

Section I: Candidates must have spent at least one semester in Mesquite High School and shall be members of the sophomore, junior, or senior classes. Candidates eligible for consideration as members must be enrolled in at least four academic classes and must have a cumulative academic average of 90 or above. This scholastic candidacy does not guarantee membership in the chapter. Further eligibility shall be considered on service, leadership, and character. Candidates must not have more than one citizenship grade of B or any citizenship grade below a B in any class during the previous semester. In addition, candidates must provide proof of 25 hours of outside of school community service.

Section II: The election of members to this chapter of the National Honor Society shall be by a chapter council consisting of five members of the faculty council. Faculty council decisions will be final.

Section III: To aid the faculty council in the selection of members for this chapter, each candidate will submit an information sheet in which s/he delineates activities demonstrating and providing evidence of his/her history of community service and leadership. Assistant principals shall be consulted regarding unbecoming behavior, and any candidate who has demonstrated unbecoming behavior during the school year shall not be considered for membership. Unbecoming behavior is exemplified by, but not limited to, placement in an Alternative Education Program such as ISS, MIC, The Academy, or home suspension.

Section IV: Students and their parents who question the fact that they were not selected do not have a legal right to a hearing, but they and their parents shall be given an opportunity to present their complaints to the chapter sponsor(s) and principal.

Article III: Induction of Members

Section I: Members shall be inducted into the society before their peers, parents, and other National Honor Society members with an appropriate ceremony in the fall semester of each school year.

Section II: the sponsor(s), the principal, and the officers of the club will conduct the induction ceremony.

Section III: Participation in the induction ceremony is a requirement for membership. Candidates who are not present at the ceremony are not members in the society. They will be eligible for consideration for membership the following year.

Article IV: Membership

Section I: Membership in this chapter shall be based upon scholarship, good school citizenship, service, leadership and character.

Section II: Membership in this chapter shall be known as active, probationary, and graduate. All members are active from the time that they are admitted into National Honor Society. Probationary members shall have no voice, no vote, and may not hold office for the duration of their probation period for whatever reason that their probation has occurred. Members become graduate members upon graduation and no longer have influence or ties to the chapter.

Section III: Members must have and maintain a cumulative average of 90 in their academic classes while enrolled at this school. Their further eligibility shall then be considered on their school citizenship, service, leadership, and character while in the organization.

Section IV: Any member who falls below the academic standards which were the basis of his or her selection shall be promptly warned in writing and placed on probation for one semester. If the member fails to meet the standards after probation, s/he will be dismissed from the organization. The member shall receive notification of dismissal in writing.

Section V: Any member who receives 2 or more B's or 1 or more of any grade lower than a B in citizenship during a six week grading period shall be promptly warned in writing and placed on probation for one six week grading period. If the member fails to meet the standards during any following six-week period of the school year after probation, s/he will be dismissed from the organization. The member shall receive notification of dismissal in writing.

Section VI: Any member who demonstrates unbecoming behavior during the school year will be dismissed from the organization immediately. Unbecoming behavior is evident by, but not limited to, placement in an Alternative Education Program such as ISS, MIC, The Academy, or home suspension. The member shall receive notification of dismissal in writing.

Section VII: All members shall provide 25 hours of outside of school community service each calendar year. Members will provide proof of hours at the beginning of each spring semester. Any student who fails to meet the standards of service will be dismissed from the organization in writing. The member shall receive notification of dismissal in writing.

Section VIII: Members who face dismissal shall be given the opportunity to address the faculty council regarding their infraction before they are dismissed. The dismissed member may not be eligible for membership in this or any other chapter of the National Honor Society, and must return all NHS insignia, including certificate and membership card.

Section IX: Appeals of dismissal by the faculty council are addressed to the principal.

Section X: Any member may resign anytime from the chapter without repercussions by stating in formal writing the reason(s) for his or her resignation accompanied by the signature of his or her parent.

Article V: Officers

Section I: The offices of this chapter shall be president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. Only senior members are eligible to hold office.

Section II: Officer elections shall be held in the spring semester.

Section III: It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings of this chapter and to serve as ex-officio member of all committees of this chapter.

Section IV: The vice-president shall fill the chair of the president in his absence and handle all business of the chapter.

Section V: The secretary shall maintain records and shall be in charge of club promotion throughout the building.

Section VI: The treasurer shall be in charge of all financial matters, any fundraising activities, and shall assist in club promotion throughout the building.

Section VII: All chapter officers shall maintain the highest standards expected and fulfill all their duties or obligations for which they are responsible. Any officer who does not perform up to these standards will be dismissed and replaced accordingly by a decision of the sponsor(s).

Article VI: Faculty Council

Section I: The faculty council shall consist of 5 voting faculty members appointed annually by the principal.

Section II: The term of the faculty council members shall be one year. Members may be appointed to consecutive terms.

Section III: The chapter sponsor(s) shall be ex-officio member(s) of the faculty council and shall have no vote on issues.

Article VII: Meetings

Section I: There shall be regular meetings of this chapter throughout the school year at a time set by the officers and sponsor(s).

Section II: Members are required to attend at least half of the National Honor Society. If a member fails to attend meetings, s/he faces dismissal from the club.

Article VIII: Activities

Section I: This chapter shall determine two service projects for each year. One project will focus on community service, and one project will focus on school service.

Section II: All members shall regularly participate in these projects.

Article IX: Dues

Section I: Dues for National Honor Society shall be collected one time, prior to induction. All inductees shall pay the same amount. Dues are non-refundable if the member resigns, moves, or is dismissed from the organization.

Mesquite High School-NHS Community Service Record

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Your name: (First and Last): _____

Name of organization: _____

Description of organization: _____

Contact name: _____ Contact number: _____

Total hours worked: _____ Date(s) (Month/Day/Year) _____

SPECIFIC Description of volunteer duties:

Signature of supervisor: _____ Printed name: _____

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