

**CONSTITUTION OF THE
CHURCHLAND HIGH SCHOOL
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY
CHARLOTTE BEALE CHAPTER**

Article I – Name and Purpose

- Section 1* The name of this organization shall be the Churchland High School National Honor Society (CHS NHS) – Charlotte Beale Chapter.
- Section 2* The purpose of this organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students at CHS.
- Section 3* The CHS NHS shall be under the sponsorship and supervision of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) and the Portsmouth Public Schools (PPS).

Article II – State and Regional Organizations

- Section 1* The CHS NHS is a member of the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals.
- Section 2* The CHS NHS shall conform to its constitution and shall work with the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals Division of Student Activities in furthering the purpose of this organization.

Article III – Local Chapter

- Section 1* The CHS NHS shall pay a charter fee determined by the national and state councils.
- Section 2* The CHS principal shall pay the annual affiliation fee recommended by the national council and approved by the NASSP Board of Directors.
- Section 3* The annual individual membership dues of the CHS NHS shall be 20 dollars. A late fee of an additional 5 dollars will be assessed after the end of the first term of each year. A stole fee shall be paid by each NHS graduating Senior who is in good standing and desires to wear the NHS stole at the graduation ceremony.

Article IV – The CHS Principal

- Section 1* The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.
- Section 2* The principal shall appoint a chapter adviser each year. The chapter adviser may serve consecutive terms.
- Section 3* The principal shall be a part of the local school district appeal process for non-selection or dismissal cases.

Article V – The Chapter Adviser

- Section 1* The chapter adviser shall be responsible for the direct daily supervision of the chapter and act as liaison between faculty, administration, students and community.
- Section 2* The chapter adviser shall maintain files on membership, chapter history, activities, and financial transactions. The chapter adviser shall send reports to the national and state offices as required.
- Section 3* The chapter adviser shall regularly review each member for compliance with the NHS standards and obligations.
- Section 4* The chapter adviser shall send written notification to members and parents in cases of non-selection, probation, and dismissal.
- Section 5* The chapter adviser shall work with the CHS NHS officers to carry out their duties.

Article VI – Faculty Council

- Section 1* The faculty council shall consist of five voting faculty members appointed upon consultation with the principal. The principal or any assistant principal shall not be included on the faculty council.
- Section 2* The term of the faculty council shall be one year. Members may be appointed to consecutive terms.
- Section 3* The chapter adviser shall be an ex-officio, non-voting sixth member of the faculty council.
- Section 4* The faculty shall meet as necessary to select members and to consider dismissal, probation, warnings, and other disciplinary actions.
- Section 5* The CHS NHS shall reserve the right to select non-voting faculty members to assist with matters other than membership and selection of students (fund raising, scholarships, tutorial programs, etc.)

Article VII – Membership

- Section 1* Membership in the CHS NHS is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by a faculty council and is based upon outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to demonstrate these qualities.
- Section 2* Membership shall be known as active and graduate. Active members shall become graduate members at graduation. Graduate members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.
- Section 3* Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony. A candidate must attend the ceremony and take the pledge in order to become a member.
- Section 4* Members who are seniors in good standing are eligible to be nominated by the CHS NHS to compete in the NHS Scholarship Program.

Section 5 An NHS member who transfers to CHS and brings a letter from a former principal or NHS chapter adviser to the CHS NHS chapter adviser shall be accepted as a member into the CHS NHS Charlotte Beale Chapter on a probationary status. Transfer members must meet the CHS NHS chapter standards within one term in order to attain full membership status.

Section 6 Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.

Article VIII – Selection of Members

Section 1 Eligible candidates for CHS NHS membership must be sophomores, juniors, or seniors who have earned at least eight academic credits. Freshmen are not eligible. Candidates must have attended CHS as least one full term. Some candidates may be ineligible because of the one term rule. Students who seek an exception to this rule due to frequent relocation of parents/guardians because of the nature of their work (i.e. military or business-related moves) must present a recommendation from the previous school principal pursuant to the candidate’s selection. Based upon the recommendation of the previous principal, the faculty council may waive the term regulation.

Section 2 Candidates must have a cumulative scholastic average of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale. Candidates who meet the cumulative average requirement of 3.3 will then be evaluated on the basis of service, leadership, and character by the CHS faculty.

Section 3 The selection of each member to the CHS NHS shall be by a majority vote of the faculty council.

Section 4 A description of the selection procedure shall be published in an official school publication which is widely available in a timely fashion to all students and parents. The faculty council shall determine the selection procedure which shall be consistent with the rules and regulations of the National Honor Society.

Article IX – Dismissal

Section 1 The procedure for dismissal shall be determined by the faculty council in compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Honor Society. A written description of the dismissal procedure shall be available upon request.

Section 2 Members who no longer meet the standards that were the basis for their selection shall promptly be warned by the chapter adviser and given one term to correct the deficiency. In the case of flagrant violation of school rules or civil laws, no warning shall be necessary for dismissal.

Section 3 The faculty council shall dismiss an individual who violates the rules of the CHS NHS – Charlotte Beale Chapter – after issuing a warning.

Section 4 In all cases of impending dismissal, a member shall have a right to a hearing before the faculty council if he/she requests one.

Section 5 A member who has been dismissed may appeal the decision of the faculty council under the same rules for disciplinary appeals for Portsmouth Public Schools.

Section 6 Members who are dismissed from the CHS NHS must surrender all emblems and insignias of NHS including certificate and patch received at induction.

Article X – Officers

Section 1 The CHS NHS executive committee shall consist of the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2 The chapter adviser may add additional officers to the Executive Committee as necessary to accomplish the work of the CHS NHS.

Section 3 A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to elect any chapter officer unless the officer is unopposed at elections.

Section 4 New officers of the CHS NHS shall be elected during the month of June for the following academic year. Any CHS NHS member in good standing may run for office.

Article XI – Executive Committee

Section 1 The CHS NHS executive committee shall consist of the officers and the chapter adviser.

Section 2 The executive committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between business meetings, make recommendations to the chapter, and determine and perform such 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 membership.

Section 3 the executive committee shall have the responsibility for ensuring that chapter activities and procedures follow school policies and regulations

Article XII – Meetings and Activities

Section 1 The CHS NHS shall hold meetings on the second Wednesday of each month unless there are schedule conflicts in which case a particular meeting will be held at an announced and mutually agreeable date.

Section 2 Special meetings may be called by the chapter adviser and/or president.

Section 3 Formal business meetings shall be conducted according to *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

Section 4 The CHS NHS shall determine and publicize one or more service projects for the year. All members shall be encouraged to participate in these projects.

Section 5 Service projects shall have the following characteristics: fulfill a need within the school or community, have the support of the administration

and faculty, be appropriate and educationally defensible, and be well-planned.

Section 6 Each continuing member shall have the responsibility of choosing and participating in service projects for a total of 20 hours of service per school year. New inductees shall be responsible for 15 hours of service for the induction year. Service hours must come from activities that are not for financial remuneration, not for the NHS member or immediate family, and not for academic credit. Service hours must consist of active participation, not simple observation. Service hours may be completed during the summer for the following year.

Section 7 Each member is responsible for keeping a record of the hours spent in service projects and must submit the record by the end of the year according to guidelines formulated by the faculty council and chapter adviser.

Section 8 Each member is responsible for participating in one CHS NHS group sponsored service project. Each semester (fall/spring) at least one group sponsored service project will be available. Each member is encouraged to participate in all group sponsored service projects but must participate in at least one group sponsored service project per academic school year.