

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

MTHS Chapter

Middle Township High School

Honor Society Contract

Expectations:

- The National Honor Society is a distinguished organization that seeks to recognize students for their dedication to, and excellence in, scholarship, leadership, character, and community service. This contract identifies the expectations that the Middle Township High School Chapter of the National Honor Society holds for its members.
- Members of the Middle Township High School Chapter of the National Honor Society must maintain the high standards of the National Honor Society by remaining active in organizations and demonstrating positive leadership in all aspects of student life. As an inducted member of National Honor Society, you are expected to work toward these goals for the duration of your membership in the ways outlined below.
 - Membership dues: \$20.00
 - Attendance
 - Service/ Tutoring
 - Scholarship
 - Leadership
 - Character

I. Membership Dues:

- Dues of \$20.00 will be collected **by** January 31st yearly. Your dues will support our chapter of the National Honor Society in purchasing items used throughout the year including (but not limited to) supplies for induction as well as for graduation. If you are unable to pay these dues due to personal circumstances, see the advisor as soon as possible. Students will not be excluded from membership due to inability to pay.

II. Attendance/ Meetings:

- **Members are required to attend NHS meetings.** Meetings will be held throughout the year when we have business to discuss. If you cannot be at a meeting, you must check with the advisor to see what you have missed. Repeated unexcused absences may result in a member being asked to leave NHS.

III. Service:

The National Chapter of the Society requires that all local chapters involve themselves in community service. All members of the Middle Township High School Chapter must perform 20 hours of

documented community service each year, 10 per each academic semester. As the advisor is contacted throughout the year by outside organizations, service opportunities will be either posted outside of the advisor's classroom or sent via Remind. Members are not limited to only these service opportunities and are encouraged to volunteer with different organizations, inside and outside of school. Members must submit the Service Hours Form at the end of each semester. If a student is unable to complete 10 hours in a single semester, he or she must submit a request in writing to the advisor for additional time. Members who do not have evidence of service at the end of the semester, and have not submitted a written request for additional time, will be put on probation. If a member fails to comply, or fails to show evidence of service in a second consecutive semester after being on probation, the member may be dismissed from NHS.

IV. Tutoring:

NHS members are strongly encouraged to tutor your fellow MTHS students throughout the academic year. When contacted by the Guidance Department, please indicate which subjects you are most comfortable tutoring in. Tutoring hours can count towards your service hours for the semester.

V. Scholarship:

- You must maintain a 3.30 or higher weighted GPA for the remainder of your high school career. If your GPA drops below this minimum, you will automatically be put on probation for one marking period. If, at the end of the probationary marking period, your GPA is 3.30 or better, you will again be a member in good standing. However, you must maintain a 3.30 minimum GPA for the rest of your high school career, or your membership can be revoked. If you do not raise your GPA to the required minimum of 3.30 at the end of the probation period, the faculty council can revoke your membership. An extension of the probation period may be granted under extenuating circumstances.

NOTE: The weighted GPA for candidates in the fall of 2019 and later will change to 3.50.

In addition, members of the National Honor Society are expected to strictly maintain all standards of scholarship at Middle Township High School. These standards include honesty in claiming authorship and in documenting sources of information.

VI. Leadership:

Leadership requires more than participating actively in organizations, clubs, or sports contributing to the school or community, although this is an essential aspect of leadership. The combination of scholarship, service and character identifies a true leader; as a member of National Honor Society, your leadership will be judged by your performance in all four areas outlined in this contract. You do not need to be an officer in an organization to be essential to its operation. Responsibility, reliability, and active participation are essential components of leadership. You are neither responsible nor reliable if you fail to fulfill any obligation to which you have committed yourself, including taking unexcused absences from school. The faculty committee may review the membership of any student who is repeatedly and inappropriately absent from classes.

VII. Character:

- The word honor implies that the members of the National Honor Society should earn the respect of others. You earn respect by displaying such character traits as honesty, respectfulness, maturity, humility, and helpfulness. As stated earlier, being a member of the National Honor Society is an honor and a privilege, and as such you are expected to maintain a high level of integrity. It is essential to maintain your good reputation in and out of the classroom; others will hold you to a higher standard of ethical behavior.

Character also requires adherence to the rules established to govern a community, including the policies of individual teachers and of the Middle Township School District. Dishonesty, rudeness, inappropriate language, or other such behaviors are unacceptable. Officially reported incidences, referrals, or suspensions will have an impact on your membership status. Major offenses such as plagiarizing/cheating, substance use, attending events where illegal substances are present, posting inappropriate material or opinions online, or other equally major offenses will be reviewed by the faculty council and can result in revocation of membership. Minor offenses such as referrals, rudeness, inappropriate language or behavior at events, or other equally minor offenses again will be reviewed by the faculty council and can result in your membership being put on conditional status. Repeated offenses will result in your membership being revoked.

- The Faculty Council may review the membership of any student who is referred to the administration, or who commits any infraction listed in the student handbook for the Middle Township School District, or who breaks the law.

- Again, remember: you are a NHS representative and, more importantly, your personal integrity is placed in jeopardy with poor choices in behavior. This includes how you represent yourself online! Be sure to follow the rules in this contract in your online social media postings as well.

The National Honor Society policies DO NOT replace, but extend, the existing policies or procedures established through the school handbook.

VIII. Faculty Council Review:

- The Faculty Council will consist of five Middle Township High School certificated staff. They will review the information pending your situation, and you will then have the opportunity to write an explanation to defend your actions or inaction. After reviewing all of the information, the council will vote. Council members will review the information and vote independently, similar to the process of the selection of members. To remain in NHS, you will need to receive three “Yes” votes from the council. If three “Yes” votes are not obtained, membership will end.

IX. Revocation of Membership:

- When a student has his/her membership revoked, any privileges that go with the membership are also lost. This means that the student cannot use NHS as an activity or honor on any college or scholarship applications. Advisors may then contact all colleges/universities that the student applied, was accepted,

or has matriculated into. It will not matter when, during the year, that student's membership was revoked—colleges may be contacted as a result.

Please detach and return:

I, _____, agree to the above contract regulations. I understand what is expected of me in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership and character by the Middle Township High School chapter of the National Honor Society.

I understand that my failure to meet these expectations may lead to my membership being revoked.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____