

Spring 2022

**Constitution of the Pantzer Chapter of the  
National Honor Society of Secondary School  
Sheboygan South High School**

**Article I: Name and Purpose**

Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be the Pantzer Chapter of the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools.

Section 2. The object of this chapter shall be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and to encourage the development of character in pupils of Sheboygan South High School.

**Article II: Membership**

Section 1. Membership of this chapter shall be known as active and graduate. The graduate members have no vote.

Section 2. Membership in this chapter shall be based on scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

Section 3. Candidates eligible for selection in this chapter shall have a minimum weighted grade point average of 4.25 on a 5.0 scale. The minimum grade point average level of achievement shall remain fixed. Candidates eligible for selection in this chapter shall maintain no more than 48 unexcused mods per semester; and will have no major referrals in their application year and years following. Candidates shall then be considered for selection to membership on the basis of character, leadership, and service. Members of the junior class may be selected to active membership in the second semester of their junior year.

Section 4. Any active member who falls below the standards that were the basis for his/her election to membership shall be dropped from the chapter by a majority vote of the National Honor Society Selection Committee as per Article IV, Section 3.

Section 5. A National Honor Society member who transfers to another school and brings a letter from the former principal or chapter adviser to the new school adviser shall be accepted automatically as a member in the new school's chapter. Transfer members must meet the new chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership.

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

Section 7. If a member is dropped from the chapter, his/her certificate, emblem, and graduation cords shall be returned to the advisor of the Pantzer Chapter.

### **Article III: Selection Committee**

Section 1. The Faculty Selection Committee shall consist of five voting faculty members appointed annually by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be an ex officio, non-voting, member of the Selection Committee. No principal or assistant principal may be included on the Selection Committee.

Section 2. The term of the Faculty Selection Committee shall be one year. Members may be appointed to consecutive terms.

Section 3. The Faculty Selection Committee shall meet at least once a year to review the procedures of the chapter, select members and to consider non-selection, dismissal, other disciplinary actions, and warning cases.

Section 4. The Faculty Selection Committee will develop and revise, when necessary, all chapter procedures for selection, disciplining, and dismissal of members, all of which must remain in compliance with the national guidelines.

### **Article IV: Selection of Members**

Section 1. The selection of members to this chapter shall be in the following manner:

- a. A list of students meeting the scholastic criteria shall be submitted to the National Honor Society Selection Committee.
- b. Candidates shall be evaluated on their leadership abilities by the faculty. A scale of one to five shall be used, with 5 representing the excellent leadership and 1 representing poor leadership. All information gathered from faculty ratings and service documents will be considered by the committee.
- c. Candidates shall be evaluated on character. Each candidate shall be given an acceptable or unacceptable character rating based on input from the faculty. If a student receives two (2) unacceptable ratings, his/her name shall be taken off the candidate list.
- d. Candidates shall be evaluated on service. Each candidate shall submit records of service associated with the school and the community. Students will turn in official service forms (**a separate one for each service**) documenting their hours of activity.

### **NEW Service requirements will be effective for the 2022-23 school year and all following school years.**

1. Students must show proof of **40 hours** of combined **voluntary school and community service** completed in the previous calendar year. (Ex. Service

hours should be accumulated in prior school year (sophomore/junior year) and the following summer.

1. Students must have at **least 10 cumulative hours of South-sponsored school activities and 10 hours of community service. School service will now require documentation of hours of participation like community service.**
3. Students must participate in **3 different, unrelated activities for school and community service.**
  1. Any combination of hours is acceptable as long as you have signed evidence of 10 total school service hours and 10 community service hours. The remaining 20 can be of either form.

**Please note: Services and activities cannot be used if credit or pay is earned.**

**No “double-dipping” of community service hours will be accepted. Most fundraising and performances are also not considered a service or activity.**

**Service obtained in organizations that require community service can be used for a school activity (if school sponsored) OR the specific service hours of an activity can be counted toward community service **but will not be accepted in fulfillment of both.****

Services may be done as individual projects or with a group, but they must be done for or on the behalf of others (**not including immediate family members.**)

Participation in National Honor Society is not an activity eligible for a school activity; however, **community** service activities offered by NHS are eligible.

- e. No more than 48 mods of unexcused absences will be allowed per semester.
- f. The Selection Committee shall next evaluate candidates on their service. Candidates who lack service references or fail to submit service references shall have their names removed from the candidate list.

Section 2. Candidate names remaining on the list after evaluation of scholarship, character, leadership and service shall be recommended for membership in this chapter by the Selection Committee.

Section 3. Right of Review. Candidates for membership of the Pantzer Chapter who are not selected for year membership because they failed to meet membership criteria may apply for a right of review. The following procedure will be followed:

- a. Non-selected members will be informed of their non-selection and which criteria they failed to maintain.
- b. Non-selected members may present their case to the Selection Committee, in writing, 250 words or less, within five (5) school days of notification of their non-selection.
- c. The Selection Committee shall review the written cases submitted in accordance with paragraph (b) above.

- d. A favorable majority vote of the Selection Committee will be required to reinstate a non-selected member to “selected” status.

Section 4. Where a member deliberately violates a school policy or civil law, the Selection Committee will investigate the situation thoroughly. Should the Selection Committee decide to dismiss the member from the Pantzer Chapter, the member shall have the right of review as outlined in Article IV, Section 3. Once a member has been dismissed, he/she is never again eligible for membership.

### **PANTZER CHAPTER UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT AND PENALTIES**

Section 6145.2 of the Student Co-Curricular Handbook states, *the Sheboygan Area School District encourages each student to pursue excellence, not only in the academic and activity areas, but also in the areas of conduct and behavior.* The National Honor Society requires stellar conduct and behavior.

Below is a list of unacceptable conduct that will be considered when the National Honor Society Committee reviews selection of new members as well as the probation of existing members. The committee will review each quarter, via legal venues, available documentation before making any decisions regarding induction within the Society. Conduct will be reviewed from within the last calendar year to the present date.

### **UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT**

1. Possesses, transports, consumes, or uses alcoholic or malt beverages, controlled substances, and/or drug paraphernalia.
2. Possesses, consumes, or uses smoking or smokeless tobacco or unauthorized inhalants.
3. Conviction of a misdemeanor. A student will not be punished more than once for each individual violation.
4. Provides, sells, or possesses with the intention of providing or selling alcohol or malt beverages, any controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, and “look-alike” drugs.
5. Knowingly provides a residence, place, location or space where alcohol or drugs are consumed, organizes said activity or hosts it.
6. Conviction of a felony.
7. Commits any acts of willful, persistent, disruptive behavior or any act in violation of or subject to penalty under Wisconsin State Statutes or any local ordinance.
8. Commits any acts of willful, persistent, disruptive behavior or any act in violation of or subject to penalty under the Sheboygan Area School District policies, administrative rules, or school rules.
9. Commits or participates in acts of vandalism at a district school or at schools with whom we compete.
10. Commits or participates in acts of theft involving the property of the school district or schools with whom we compete.
11. Engages in conduct that brings discredit upon or harms the reputation of the school, or the school district.

- a. **Probation:** A member is placed on probation if the student's cumulative grade point average falls below the required G.P.A. of 4.25 as established in the Society's by-laws. Any member who is on probation may attend all National Honor Society meetings and events. At the end of the semester, if the cumulative grade point average rises to or above 4.25, the probation will be lifted and the student reinstated in the National Honor Society by letter. However, if the cumulative grade point average continues below 4.25, the student will be placed on academic suspension.
- b. **Suspension:** A member may be suspended for "character violations." Character violations are defined as actions and conduct unbecoming of National Honor Society members such as the items listed in the Society's "Unacceptable Conduct and Penalties" handout/contract signed by both student and parent, as well as the criteria found in section 6145.2 of the district's *Student Co-Curricular Handbook*. If a member commits any inappropriate act, a suspension of membership is implemented from the time of the infraction, consistent with the penalties set by school board policy. If a student is suspended, a letter will be sent home from the advisor, informing the student and the parent of the suspension. If the student has grounds for appeal, the National Honor Society Selection Committee will evaluate the appeal. (See above for appeals). During the suspension period, the member is expected to maintain high standards of behavior, academic performance, and service. Near the end of the suspension period, a member may reapply for readmission to the Society. To reapply, the student must submit a letter to the advisor stating his/her request for readmission and reasons for wanting reinstatement. While on suspension, the student is not allowed any of the privileges of membership. That is, he/she will not be allowed to include National Honor Society on application forms for scholarships, college applications, etc. Furthermore, a senior who is suspended will not receive honor cords for graduation.
- c. **Dismissal:** In an extreme situation, a member may be dismissed from National Honor Society. Dismissals are permanent. A member who has been dismissed may never be reinstated. Extreme situations would include, but are not limited to, acts leading to expulsion, criminal acts such as theft, computer tampering, or other such activities (see Z code violations, board policy). Upon dismissal, a student may no longer claim membership on applications. Should dismissal take place second semester of a senior year, a student will not receive honor cords for graduation.

#### **Article V: Committee Chair-People**

Section 1. The committee chair-people of this chapter's volunteer committees will consist of one senior chair and one junior co-chair (who will shadow to become chair the following year).

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the chair-people to preside at the meetings of this chapter.

## **Article VI: Supervision**

Section 1. The activities of this chapter shall be subject to the approval of the principal and the advisor.

## **Article VII: Meetings**

Section 1. The meetings of this chapter shall be held on days designated by the chapter.

Section 2. The first regular meeting of the school year shall be for the committee assignments and by-law review.

Section 3. Special meetings, approved by the principal and/or advisor, may be held.

Section 4. All meetings shall be open meetings held with full knowledge of the advisor.

## **Article VIII: Activities**

Section 1. The chapter shall determine one or more service projects for each year.

Section 2. All members shall regularly participate in these projects.

Section 3. These projects shall have the following characteristics: fulfill a need within the school or community; have the support of the administration and the faculty; be appropriate and educationally defensible; and be well planned, organized, and executed.

Section 4: Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in two service projects that reflect his or her particular talents and interests. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute.

Section 5: Each chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.