

**Wessendorff Middle School Honor Society CHAPTER**

**4257**

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**Introduction and Outline**

All NEHS chapters function under the National Constitution (available in the national handbook and on the national Web site), and operate locally under a set of *chapter bylaws*.

Bylaws for local Honor Society chapters are designed to implement and expand upon the National Constitution. Bylaws, by definition, are a written set of rules for a group. Chapter bylaws define the limits of authority for the organization and give a sense of both order and purpose.

Chapter bylaws should be stated in simple, age-appropriate, easy-to-understand terms. They should include only essential items. Amendments should be simple and direct. Bylaws must be studied regularly and changed to stay vital, meaningful, and real.

Chapter Bylaws

Of the

Wessendorff Middle School Honor Society Chapter,

Charter Number: 4257
of the
National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS)
Adopted: 11/3/2017

ARTICLE 1: NAME

The name of this chapter shall be the Wessendorff Middle School Honor Society Chapter of the National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS) of **WESSENDORFF MIDDLE SCHOOL**.

ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE

The purpose of this chapter shall be to recognize students for their outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated personal responsibility, to provide meaningful service to the school and community, and to develop essential leadership skills within the students of

**WESSENDORFF MIDDLE SCHOOL.**

ARTICLE 3: POWERS

Section 1: This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the National Constitution of NEHS. See [www.nhs.us/constitution.](http://www.nhs.us/constitution.)

Section 2. The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

Section 3: Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.

Section 4: Non-discrimination. Our chapter of NEHS maintains policies and practices that are designed to prevent discrimination against any qualified candidate or member on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, and disability. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all activities and practices, including the chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members.

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION

Section 1. Membership in this chapter is an honor bestowed upon deserving students by the faculty and shall be based on the criteria of Scholarship and Responsibility.

Section 2. Membership in this chapter shall be known as active, honorary, and graduate. Active members become graduate members at upon completion of their elementary school studies at this school. Graduate and honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 3. Eligibility:

1. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be enrolled in grade 6 at **WESSENDORFF MIDDLE SCHOOL**.
2. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been

enrolled for a period equivalent to one semester at **WESSENDORFF MIDDLE SCHOOL**. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative average of **90** at the end of semester one. All members must also maintain a grade of **85** or higher in each subject for each six weeks on the report card.

1. All future candidates and members must meet the minimum passing standard on the state assessment for each content area tested in his/her grade level to be eligible for membership.
2. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and scholastic standards, candidates shall then be considered based on their demonstrated personal responsibility.

Section 4. The selection of members to this chapter shall be by Semester 1 average and completion of the invitation application.

Section 5. Prior to the final selection, the following shall occur:

1. Students’ academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
2. Students who are eligible scholastically (i.e., candidates) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the Candidate’s Form for further consideration.
3. The Faculty Council shall review the Candidates Forms, and other relevant information to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership.

Section 6. The selection of active members shall be held once a year after the third six weeks grading period during the second semester of the school year.

Section 7. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

Section 8. Transfer membership. Membership cannot be transferred from one chapter of NEHS to another as each chapter sets a different criteria.

ARTICLE 5: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the National Elementary Honor Society.

Section 2. Annual dues for this chapter shall be $15 per member per year. Dues will be made payable to **WESSENDORFF MIDDLE SCHOOL** within 30 days of induction.

Section 3. Each member must attend the required number of meetings and participate in chapter activities as outlined below to remain in good standing.

* Each member must attend a minimum of two (2) meetings (allowing only 1 absence.)
* Each member must participate on a committee to complete an NEHS project.
* Each member is required to complete a minimum of two (2) community service hours prior to May 11th of the current academic year.

Section 4. Each member must have good conduct, work habits and social behaviors for each six weeks of the Spring Semester and no discipline referrals.

Section 5. Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS

Section 1. Each member will meet monthly by House.

Section 2. For the 2017-2018 school year, the Faculty Council will appoint the House officers based on scholastic standing.

Section 3. House Officers shall serve a term of one school semester.

ARTICLE 7: MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings of this chapter shall be held monthly.

Section 2. This chapter shall strive to conduct its meetings according to *Robert’s Rules of Order.*

ARTICLE 8: ACTIVITIES

Section 1. The chapter shall determine one or more service projects for each year. A minimum total of two (2) official activities will be conducted during the Spring Semester.

Section 2. All members of the chapter 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 undertaken in a well-planned and organized manner.

Section 4. The chapter shall publicize and promote its projects in a positive manner.

ARTICLE 9: DISCIPLINE of MEMBERS

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship and responsibility may be

considered for disciplinary actions by the **WESSENDORFF MIDDLE SCHOOL** Honor Society chapter of the National Elementary Honor Society. A member of the National Elementary Honor Society is expected to maintain his/her academic standing, be responsible in all aspects, and take an active role in service and leadership to his/her school and community.

Section 2. If a member’s cumulative grade point average falls below the standard (90) in effect when he/she was selected, he /she will be given a written warning and a reasonable time period for improvement. If the cumulative grade point average remains below standard at the end of the warning period stated on the letter, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council that can include consideration of dismissal from the chapter. If the student receives two warning letters for failure to maintain the required scholastic average, the student will be referred to the Faculty Council for consideration of dismissal.

Section 3. If a member’s average falls below 85 in any subject, he/she will be given written warning and a reasonable time period for improvement. If the subject average remains below the standard at the end of the warning period stated on the letter, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council that can include consideration of dismissal from the chapter. If the student receives two warning letters for failure to maintain the required scholastic average, the student will be referred to the Faculty Council for consideration of dismissal.

Section 4. Violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member (see Section 6 below). These violations include, but are not limited to stealing, destruction of property, cheating, truancy, or other serious offenses defined in the school’s student code of conduct.

Section 5. Offenders of the school conduct code which constitute an office referral (such as use of profanity, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive a written warning. A conference may be requested by either party (Faculty Council or student/parent). If the member is involved in additional violations of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal.

Section 6. In all cases of pending dismissal:

1. The member will receive written notification from the adviser/Faculty Council indicating the reason for consideration of dismissal.
2. The member will be given the opportunity to respond to the charge(s) against him/her at a hearing before the Faculty Council. This will take place prior to any vote on dismissal (in accordance with due process identified in the National Constitution). The member has the opportunity to present his/her case either in person or through a written statement presented instead of the face-to-face hearing. Following the hearing, the Faculty Council will vote to determine the appropriate disciplinary action. A majority vote of the Faculty Council is needed to dismiss any member.
3. The results of the Faculty Council vote will be presented to the principal for review, and then stated in a letter sent to the student and parents. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser.
4. The Faculty Council’s decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards according to provisions of the school district discipline policies.
5. Members who resign or are dismissed can be reconsidered for membership upon written request to the chapter adviser.

Section 7. In lieu of dismissal, the Faculty Council may impose other appropriate disciplinary measures upon a member.

ARTICLE 10: RATIFICATION, REVIEW, and AMENDMENTS.

Section 1: Ratification. These bylaws will be approved upon receiving a two-thirds affirmative vote of all active members of the chapter, a majority affirmative vote of the Faculty Council, and approval by the administration.

Section 2: Review. These bylaws shall be reviewed and if necessary, revised within five years from the date of approval noted on this document.

Section 3: Amendments. These by-laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the chapter, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given to members at least one month prior to the vote. The exceptions are any provisions regarding selection of members and chapter disciplinary guidelines, which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the principal.

Date:

Approved:

Danielle Young, Wessendorff Chapter Adviser

Julie Mullinex, Wessendorff Chapter Adviser

Dr. Sonya Sanzo, Principal of Wessendorff Middle School