

**ADENA HIGH SCHOOL
3367 County Road 550
Frankfort, OH 45628**

**NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY
Guidelines and By-laws**

Section 1: Name and Purpose

The National Honor Society is an organization established to give special recognition to students throughout the United States who have displayed the qualities of scholarship, leadership, service, and character during their high school years. The National Honor Society is under the sponsorship and supervision of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), 1904 Association Drive, Reston, VA, 22091. Adena received a chapter charter from the National Council in 1939. The local chapter is closely affiliated with county, state and national associations.

Section 2: Selection

Members for the National Honor Society are selected after the end of the first semester of the school year. Selection for National Honor Society is based on four criteria: *Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character*. To be considered a candidate must be a member of the junior or senior class and have a cumulative scholastic average of at least 3.5. Students may not apply for membership. Membership is an honor bestowed upon a select group of students by the faculty council on behalf of the school faculty. The faculty council consists of five staff members appointed by the principal for a one-year term, excluding the principal and the NHS advisor.

Qualified students are selected for NHS membership by a majority vote of the faculty council on the basis of *scholarship, leadership, service, and character*. The faculty council develops working definitions of these criteria based on national standards, and provides an objective measure of a student's qualifications in each of these areas. All faculty members may have some input into the selection process by completing recommendation forms for each candidate, basing their recommendations on the four criteria. These recommendations may be used by the faculty council in determining membership if the council so desires.

Membership in the National Honor Society is a privilege, not a right. Students who question the fact that they were not selected do not have a legal right to a hearing, but they and their parents may be given an opportunity to present their complaint to the principal and chapter advisor. The principal may reconvene the faculty council only if warranted by a procedural error or a name inadvertently omitted, mistake in averaging, etc.

Section 3: Discipline/Dismissal

A student remains a member of the National Honor Society as long as he/she fulfills the requirements. Any member who fails to meet the standards which are the basis of his/her selection shall be warned. Members receive one warning in writing for an infraction. Succeeding infractions will result in a second warning with a letter sent to parents. A third infraction will result in probation. For flagrant violations of civil law or school rules, no warning is necessary and dismissal will result.

Members who face dismissal shall be given the opportunity to address the faculty council regarding their infraction before final action is taken. If a member is dismissed, written notice of the decision shall be sent to both the member and his/her parents, as well as the national association.

Section 4: Chapter Activities

Chapter officers shall be elected by the current members in the spring for the forthcoming school year. They shall include: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Sues for the chapter association shall be determined each year at the first meeting.

General meetings will be held at least four times during the school year. Members must attend meetings 90% of the time, including all activities scheduled outside the school day. Non attendance at NHS functions will result in a warning, with continued infractions leading to dismissal.

Service projects for the year shall be determined by the members at the beginning of the school year. All members are expected to participate in local and county service projects. Projects will foster the four cornerstones of the National Honor Society (scholarship, leadership, service and character.)