



NHS
MVA Monarch Bylaws

Chapter Bylaws
of the
Manhattan Virtual Academy Chapter
of the
National Honor Society
Adopted: October 30, 2023

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this chapter shall be the MVA Monarchs Chapter of the National Honor Society of Manhattan Virtual Academy, USD 383 Ogden-Manhattan.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

This chapter's purpose shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, stimulate a desire to render service, promote worthy leadership, and encourage character development in Manhattan Virtual Academy students.

ARTICLE III: POWERS

Section 1: This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the National Constitution of NHS. See www.nhs.us/constitutions. In addition, this chapter will maintain active affiliation with the national organization annually.

- a. The faculty council shall consist of five faculty members appointed annually by the principal or adviser.
- b. The term of the faculty council shall be one year. Members may be appointed for consecutive years.
- c. The faculty council shall meet at least once a year to select members and to consider dismissal, non-selection and warning cases.



Section 2: This chapter will remain an active member of the state association by paying annual dues and participating in state functions when possible. Currently, the state of Kansas does not have an association.

Section 3: The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

- a. The chapter advisor shall be responsible for the virtual supervision of the chapter and act as a liaison between faculty, administration, students, families and community.
- b. The chapter adviser shall maintain files on membership, chapter history, activities and financial transactions.
- c. The chapter adviser shall help the chapter officers understand and carry out their duties.

Section 4: Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.

- a. The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.
- b. The principal shall annually appoint a chapter adviser, who may serve consecutive terms.

Section 5: Our chapter of NHS 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, gender identity, sexual orientation and disability. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all practices, including the chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

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, service, leadership, and character. Once selected, members are responsible for continuing to demonstrate scholarship, leadership, service and character.

Section 2: Membership in this chapter shall be known as active, honorary, and alumni. Active members become alumni members at the time of graduation. Alumni and honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.



- a. The faculty council shall reserve the right to award honorary membership to school officials, principals, teachers, NHS advisers, or citizens in recognition of outstanding service rendered the school in keeping with the purpose of the National Honor Society.

Section 3: Eligibility for membership is open to MVA full time high school students as specified below.

- a. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be members of the sophomore, junior, or senior class.
- b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been enrolled for a period equivalent to one semester at USD 383 Ogden-Manhattan.
- c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- d. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and GPA standards, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character.

Section 4: The National Council and the NASSP shall not review the judgment of the faculty council regarding selection of individual members to local chapters.

ARTICLE V: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1: The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the faculty council which consists of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be the sixth, nonvoting, *ex officio* member of the faculty council.

Section 2: The selection of active members shall be held once a year during the school year's second semester.

Section 3: Prior to the final selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. All eligible students scholastically (i.e., candidates) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the candidate information form for further consideration.
- c. MVA faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official input form provided by the chapter adviser.
- d. The faculty council shall review the candidate information forms, faculty input, and other relevant information to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership.

Section 4: New members shall become members when they are inducted at a special ceremony in the spring.



Section 5: An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given an official letter indicating the status of their membership.

Section 6: An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter. The faculty council shall grant the transferring member one semester to attain the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter to retain his/her membership.

Section 7: At graduation, members who do not maintain the minimum 3.5 grade point average will be considered members “not in good standing”. Only members in good standing at the beginning of the second semester before graduation will be indicated as members of the National Honor Society in the official commencement program. If, at the conclusion of the semester, the grade point average has improved to a 3.5 minimum, the member will have the privilege of graduating with the NHS honor stole.

Section 8: Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.

Section 9: The National Council and the NASSP shall not review the judgment of the faculty council regarding selection of individual members to local chapters.

ARTICLE VI: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Section 1: There will be no annual dues for this chapter.

Section 2: Each member of this chapter in good standing regarding the membership standards and member obligations shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society.

Section 3: Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter is required return the emblem to the chapter via the MVA office.

Section 4: Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the honor cords at graduation.

Section 5: Members shall attend monthly MVA Monarchs Chapter meetings via Zoom or an online platform. Students shall engage in the conversation with video and audio on for the meeting.

Section 6: Each member of the MVA Monarchs Chapter shall be responsible for choosing and participating in a service project reflecting their talents, interests and passions. Time served in



this commitment will accumulate to 20 minimum hours, fulfilling the community service component yearly.

Section 7: Members will attend the yearly induction ceremony via Zoom.

ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer, and communications coordinator.

Section 2: Officers of the chapter will be elected by members of the chapter. Student officers shall be elected at the first meeting of each school year. All returning members in good standing with the chapter are eligible to run for a position as an officer. Any active member can nominate an eligible member as a candidate for office.

Section 3: Voting shall be by secret ballot. A majority vote shall be necessary to elect any officer of this chapter. If the first vote does not yield a majority, a second vote shall be taken of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Section 4: It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings of the chapter and serve as the official representative of the chapter at school and community functions.

Section 5: The vice president shall preside in the absence of the president. It shall be the duty of the president to keep a record of members' contributions to leadership and service as well as update the journal for historical accuracy of the club yearly.

Section 6: The secretary shall keep the minutes and attendance records for meetings and be responsible for all official correspondence.

Section 7: The treasurer's duty is to keep the record of business expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter.

Section 8: The communications coordinators shall share artifacts and text with the MVA office staff, principal, and/or faculty advisor for social media posts on Facebook, Twitter, or other MVA networks.

Section 9: If an office is vacated during the school year, the faculty advisor will appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term.

Section 10: Officers and the faculty adviser(s) shall collectively be known as the chapter's executive committee. The executive committee shall establish annual goals for the chapter and have general charge of the meetings and the business of the chapter, but any action by the executive committee is subject to the review of the chapter members.



ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1: Regular meetings of this chapter shall be held monthly via Zoom or an online platform. Special meetings can be called by the president with approval of the adviser.

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

Section 3: Members are expected to attend all chapter meetings.

ARTICLE IX: 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. This participation counts toward their 20 hours of volunteer service yearly.

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 of the MVA Monarchs Chapter shall be responsible for choosing and participating in a service project reflecting their talents, interests and passions. Time served in this commitment will accumulate to 20 minimum hours, fulfilling the community service component yearly.

Section 5: The chapter shall publicize and promote its projects in a positive manner.

ARTICLE X: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL of MEMBERS

Section 1: Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, service, leadership, or character may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the MVA Monarchs Chapter of the National Honor Society. A member of the National Honor Society is expected to maintain his/her academic standing 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 in effect when they were selected, they will be given a written warning and a reasonable time for improvement. If the cumulative grade point average remains below standard at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the faculty council that includes consideration of dismissal from the chapter.



Section 3: Violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member (see Section 5 below). These violations include, but are not limited to DWI, stealing, destruction of property, cheating, truancy, or possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities or in the community.

Section 4: Offenders of the school honor code will receive written warning notification. A conference may be requested by either party (faculty council or student/parent). If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal.

Section 5: Chapter officers, as representatives of the chapter, can be removed from their positions due to disciplinary action taken by the faculty council.

Section 6: In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification from the faculty advisor/faculty council indicating the reason for consideration of dismissal.
- b. The member will be offered a hearing before the faculty council prior to any vote on dismissal (in accordance with due process identified in Article X of the National Constitution). The members will have the opportunity to present their defense during the meeting in Zoom or an online platform or via a written statement presented in lieu of the online hearing. Following the hearing, the faculty council will then vote on whether to dismiss. A majority vote of the faculty council is needed to dismiss any member.
- c. The results of the faculty council vote will be presented to the principal for review, and then a letter of dismissal will be sent to the student and parents. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems and return those to the MVA office.
- d. The faculty council's decision may be appealed to the principal of MVA.
- e. A member who is dismissed or resigns may never again be considered for membership in the National Honor Society.

Section 7: In lieu of dismissal, the faculty council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE XI: RATIFICATION, APPROVAL, and REVIEW.

Section 1: 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: These bylaws shall be reviewed and if necessary, revised within five years from the date of approval noted on this document.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

These bylaws 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 before the vote. The exceptions are Articles IV, V, and X, which are developed by the faculty council with the approval of the principal.

Approved on February 16, 2024

Signatures/Names of the Chapter President, Secretary, Adviser, and Principal.

Lori Rice