George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology

Science National Honor Society

Constitution and Bylaws

ARTICLE I

NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1 – The name of this organization shall be the Science National Honor Society of George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology.

The purpose of this chapter of the Science National Honor Society is to create an enthusiasm for scientific and intellectual thought, to advance knowledge of classical and modern science, to motivate a desire to render service and to promote worthy leadership. Members of this society are expected to uphold the civic, ethical, scholastic and extra-curricular standards set by the school and community.

Section 2 – The SNHS of George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology shall be considered a non-profit organization under 501(c)3, as per school policy/financial standing.
ARTICLE II
THE PRINCIPAL

Section 1 – The principal of the school shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

Section 2 – The principal of the school shall appoint a chapter advisor(s), who may serve consecutive terms.

ARTICLE III
THE CHAPTER ADVISOR(S)

Section 1 – The chapter advisor(s) shall be responsible for the direct, daily supervision of the chapter, and act as a liaison between faculty, administration, students, and community.

Section 2 – The chapter advisor(s) shall maintain files on membership, chapter history, activities, and financial transactions.

Section 3 – The chapter advisor(s) shall review each member for compliance with SNHS standards, obligations, and ideals.

Section 4 – The chapter advisor(s) shall help the chapter officers understand and carry out their duties.
ARTICLE IV
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Membership is an honor bestowed upon a student.

Section 2 – A member must be in the last two years of secondary school education.

Section 3 – A member must have an overall 3.75 (weighted) GPA.

Section 4 – A member must have taken at least two honors science class prior to the eleventh grade year. A member must be enrolled in at least one GT, AP or IB level science class during or prior to the twelfth grade year.

Section 5 – A member must have an un-weighted 3.5 Science GPA.

Section 6 – A student who transfers in his/her junior year must complete one academic year at George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology to be considered for membership.

Section 7 – A member must maintain behavior that is acceptable to the guidelines of Baltimore County Public Schools.

Section 8 – All members must attend one local chapter officer’s lecture annually.

Section 9 – Regular members may give a lecture with the chapter advisor’s approval.
ARTICLE V
SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1 – Candidates may only be accepted upon adherence to the policies of membership outlined in this constitution and the club bylaws.

Section 2 – Prior to selection, the following shall occur:
   a. Students’ academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
   b. Students who are eligible scholastically (“candidates”) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the Student Application Form for further consideration.
   c. The advisor(s) shall be requested to evaluate the candidates determined to be scholastically eligible and willing to participate in chapter functions.
   d. The advisor(s) shall review the Student Application in order to determine membership.

Section 3 – Once selected and registered, all members are expected to maintain the standards by which they were selected and maintain all obligations of membership.

Section 4 – An active member of the Science National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of her membership, signed by the chapter advisor.

Section 5 – An active member of the Science National Honor Society who transfers to this school will be accepted for membership in this chapter when proof of membership is provided. The advisor(s) shall grant to the transferring member one quarter to attain the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain her membership.
ARTICLE VI
MEMBERS’ DUTIES

Section 1 – Membership dues will be $20.00 per school year. This covers the cost of membership in the Science National Honor Society.

Section 2 – Members shall attend 80% of all regular meetings.

Section 3 – Members shall attend at least two lectures by an officer or guest speaker per school year.

Section 4 – Members shall participate in 90% of major SNHS projects.

Section 5 – Every member must participate in all the general fundraising activities and or participate in a special fundraising committee.

ARTICLE VII
DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL

Section 1 – A student may be dismissed if he or she violates the standards, obligations, or ideals of the Science National Honor Society. This includes violation of grade or behavioral requirements.

Section 2 – Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship and fails to maintain the other requirements of membership may be considered for dismissal from the George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology Science National Honor Society. A member of the Science National Honor Society is expected to maintain an acceptable academic standing and take an active role in service and scientific leadership to the school and community.

Section 3 – If a member’s cumulative GPA falls below the standard in effect when she or he was selected, the student may be dismissed from the chapter.
Section 4 – If a member fails to perform any of the published obligations of membership, the student will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement (nine weeks). If the obligation remains unmet at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the advisor(s) which may include dismissal from the chapter.

Section 5 – Violation of the law will result in dismissal of a member. These violations include, but are not limited to stealing; destruction of property; cheating; truancy; or possession, selling or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities. Offenders of the behavioral expectations as stated in the Student Handbook will receive a warning. Academic probation or suspension will result in dismissal from the chapter.

Section 6 – In all cases of pending dismissal:
   a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the advisor. The member and advisor will discuss the written notification in a conference. Situations that involve flagrant violation of school rules or the law can warrant disciplinary action without a written warning, although a conference must still be held.
   b. The member will be given the opportunity to respond to the charge against her at the conference. The advisor has the right to dismiss any student from the Science National Honor Society for misconduct or failure to maintain society requirements.
   c. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the advisor.
   d. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he or she is no longer a member and may not be reconsidered for membership in the Science National Honor Society.
   e. Dismissal is approved and carried out by the chapter advisor(s). Upon dismissal, the student is divested of all benefits of membership.

Section 7 – A student may appeal dismissal by submitting a written request to the Principal.
ARTICLE VIII
CHAPTER OFFICERS

Section 1 – The officers of the chapter, their duties, and the method of their election shall be determined by the advisor(s).

Section 2 – All chapter officers are obligated to the duty of presenting or organizing one brief scientific lecture per academic year. The lecture shall be ten to fifteen minutes in length and may be given during a regular chapter meeting or in a special ceremony.

Section 3 – The local chapter officers shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter as overseen by the chapter advisor(s). The officers shall meet regularly, make recommendations to the chapter, and perform all duties named in the chapter bylaws.

Section 4 – The officers of the chapter shall be elected by the members of the chapter. Eligibility to hold office will be determined by the evaluation of the officer’s application form and/or teacher recommendation by the chapter advisor(s) prior to elections.

Section 5 – The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

Section 6 – Chapter officers shall fulfill the following duties:

a. The president must prepare the agenda for all the meetings and confirm it with the advisor(s) one week prior to the meeting (with the exception of the emergency meetings). The president must represent the chapter at school and public functions, meet regularly with the chapter advisor(s) to discuss the progress of ongoing projects, research and deliver or coordinate one scientific lecture (10 minutes in duration) during a regular meeting, write and deliver a speech on Goals and Achievements of the SNHS during induction ceremonies.

b. The vice president shall preside in the absence of the president and assist the president in maintaining order at chapter meetings. The vice-president shall also keep a record of members’ contributions to scientific leadership and service acting as a coordinator of the activities
related with speakers, etc. The vice-president must plan and preside at
the induction ceremony, research and deliver or coordinate at least one
scientific lecture (10 minutes in duration) during a regular meeting,
and serve as president if the president is removed from office or
resigns.

c. The secretary should keep accurate and complete minutes of all general
and executive meetings, keep accurate and complete attendance
records of all the meetings, keep a proper file of all incoming and
outgoing correspondence, assist the chapter advisor(s) with all official
correspondence, prepare any chapter report, research and deliver or
coordinate a scientific lecture (10 minutes in duration) during a
regular meeting, work with the vice-president to help in the
coordination of all the community service activities, keep a record of
the service hours completed by the members and report deficiencies to
the chapter advisor, keep updated rosters of all current chapter
members including addresses, cell phone numbers and e-mail
addresses and keep and update calendars of all chapter events for the
school year. The secretary shall prepare any announcements (paper,
board, LTV, etc.) that concerns full chapter meetings or chapter
activities, record activities of the chapter through photographs, videos,
etc.

d. The Treasurer shall keep the record of chapter expenses, dues and all
other financial transactions of the chapter. She/he should chair and
create/prepare different fund raising activities for the chapter, organize
different fundraising committees, assist the chapter advisor(s) in
preparing a statement of estimated receipts and expenditures for the
school year, report on the financial status of the chapter at each SNHS
meeting, and research and deliver or coordinate a scientific lecture (10
minutes in duration) during a regular meeting.

Section 7 – Every officer should maintain a record of actions taken during her tenure to
be passed on to the respective officer elected for the next school year.

Section 8 – The officers shall abide by this Constitution, the School’s Goals and Criteria,
the SNHS standards, obligations and ideals.
ARTICLE IX
MEETINGS

Section 1 – The chapter shall have regular meetings during the school year on the third Thursday of every month or on a day designated by the President of the Chapter with approval from the sponsoring teacher.

Section 2 – The officers of the chapter shall have regular meetings during the school year on the second Thursday of every month or on a day designated by the President of the Chapter with approval from the sponsoring teacher. The purpose of this meeting is for planning.

Section 3 – This chapter shall conduct its meetings following acceptable rules of conduct.

Section 4 – All chapter members are expected to attend 80% of all regularly scheduled chapter meetings.

Section 5 – The president may call emergency meetings, if approved by the officers.

ARTICLE X
CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Section 1 – Each chapter shall determine one or more projects per year.

Section 2 – All members shall participate in one or more of the chapter’s projects per year.

Section 3 – The purpose of the projects shall be to encourage scientific and intellectual thought, to further the knowledge of science in school and community, and to volunteer in the surrounding community.
Section 4 – Chapters shall also attempt to bring speakers from the scientific community into the school to the extent to which their resources and location allow.

Section 5 – The projects shall have the support of the administration and the faculty; be appropriate and educationally defensible; and be well planned, organized and executed.

Section 6 – The chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.

ARTICLE XI
OFFICIAL INSIGNIA AND MOTTO

Section 1 – This organization shall have an official emblem selected by the National Board of Directors.

Section 2 – The distribution of the emblem and the rules for its use shall be under the exclusive control of the Science National Honor Society’s National Board of Directors.

Section 3 – Each active graduate or honorary member shall be entitled to wear this emblem.

Section 4 – Any member who resigns or is dismissed shall return the emblem to the chapter advisor(s).
ARTICLE XIII
AMENDMENTS

Section 1 – Chapter bylaws may be amended by the advisor(s) at any time as deemed fit and necessary.

Section 1 – When amendments are to be made by the full chapter, these bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds 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 articles which must be developed by the advisor with the approval of the school Principal.

Section 2 – Bylaws and amendments must be consistent with the constitution of the Science National Honor Society and the Goals and Criteria of the school.