

VIA PACIS BYLAWS

Article I

Name

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

Section 2. The purpose 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 the students of Carroll High School.

Article II

Selection of Members

Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be an honor bestowed upon a student who demonstrates outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service.

Section 2. To be eligible for membership, the candidate must be a junior or a senior who has spent at least one semester (immediately preceding induction) at Carroll High School.

Section 3. A weighted cumulative grade point average of 3.7 or higher must be achieved for a student to be named a candidate for National Honor Society. Candidates must complete an information form and submit the form to the Faculty Council for their consideration. The form must contain details of the candidates' leadership and service. The Council will use those forms, along with faculty input regarding character and leadership, to select the students who meet the requirements of National Honor Society. Selection will be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council. The Council will also obtain information from the administration regarding each candidate's demerit status. Candidates may not have received more than nine demerits in each of the two previous semesters.

Section 4. A National Honor Society member who transfers to this chapter from another school must have a letter from the former principal or chapter advisor. The transfer member shall be accepted automatically as a new member in this chapter and have one semester in which to meet the chapter guidelines in order to retain membership.

Article III

Responsibilities of Membership

Section 1. Membership dues are \$8.00 per year.

Section 2. Members shall volunteer a minimum of ten hours community service per school semester, or six months.

Section 3. Members must maintain the standards in GPA with which they were chosen. Members must not receive more than nine demerits each semester.

Section 4. If a member fails to meet their membership responsibilities, they will be placed on probation and will be given a set amount of time to improve. Failure to improve GPA in one semester could result in removal from NHS. That decision will be made by the Faculty Council. For example, juniors could lose their voting rights, and seniors will not receive their honor cord (to be worn at graduation) until responsibilities are met. Special circumstances which prevent a student from meeting their membership responsibilities will be taken into consideration before utilizing disciplinary measures.

Article IV Officers

Section 1. The officers of this chapter shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. The election of the officers shall take place in the following way.

- a. Nominations will be accepted in April. Elections of officers (for the upcoming year) will be held in May.
- b. Only junior members in good standing may be nominated for office.
- c. Only junior members in good standing may vote.
- d. The ballot will consist of all nominees with no distinction as to office.
- e. Members will vote for the four candidates who can best represent NHS.
- f. Those receiving the most votes (top four people) will decide which office they will hold.

Section 3. The duty of the President shall be to preside at all meetings. They shall also be the official representative of the VIA PACIS chapter.

Section 4. The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President.

Section 5. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings and post them in a timely manner.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall collect dues from each member.

Section 7. The officers shall be installed officially at the annual induction ceremony, although they will carry out their functions starting at the beginning of the year.

Section 8. The advisors shall keep records of the monies and use them for the needs of the chapter, such as honor cords, pins, ceremony refreshments, payments to guest speakers, donations to local charities, and refreshments for meetings.

Article V Meetings

Section 1. Meetings shall be held monthly before school.

Section 2. Members shall be required to attend at least half of the meetings each year.

Section 3. Members must attend the induction ceremony. Members who are unable to attend the ceremony must state the reason for their absence in writing to an advisor.

Article VI
Activities

Section 1. Chapter activities include tutoring CHS students, maintaining the school courtyard, ushering at graduation, and donating time and/or funds to charitable organizations. Members of the chapter may choose to add other activities.

Article VII
Probation and Dismissal

Section 1. Members are expected to maintain the qualities for which they were selected. Failure to do so will result in probation and possible dismissal.

Section 2. Members will be notified of their probationary status.

Article VIII
Chapter Advisors

Section 1. The chapter advisors shall be responsible for the direct, day-to-day supervision of the chapter and act as liaisons between faculty, administration, students, and community.

Section 2. The chapter advisors shall maintain files on membership, chapter history, activities, and financial transactions.

Section 3. The chapter advisors shall regularly review each member for compliance with Society standards and obligations.