

# By Laws for the Gold Standard of Eagle Mountain/Saginaw ISD

## **ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE**

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the Gold Standard.

Section 2: The purpose of this organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders.

Section 3: The Gold Standard shall conform to the essence of the Constitution of the National Honor Society, which is a program of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).

## **ARTICLE II: THE PRINCIPAL**

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

Section 2: The principal shall annually appoint a member of the faculty as an adviser, who may serve consecutive terms.

Section 3: The Gold Standard (GS) will use the National Honor Society (NHS) Faculty Advisory Council (FAC).

Section 4: The principal shall receive appeals in cases of non-selection of candidates, and the disciplining or dismissal of members.

## **ARTICLE III: THE CHAPTER ADVISERS**

Section 1: The adviser shall be responsible for the direct, day-to-day supervision of the club and act as liaison between faculty, administration, students, and community.

Section 2: The adviser shall maintain files on membership, club history, activities, and financial transactions (if any).

Section 3: The adviser shall regularly review each member for compliance with club's standards and obligations.

Section 4: The adviser shall help the student officers understand and carry out their duties.

Section 5: The adviser shall be an ex-officio, non-voting, sixth member of the FAC.

Section 6: The adviser shall be a member of the faculty, appointed annually by the principal, and may serve consecutive terms.

## **ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: Membership in this club is an honor bestowed upon a student. Final selection for membership is approved by the FAC and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

Section 2: Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

Section 3: Fall inductees will join GS at the next meeting, and will be formally inducted in the spring ceremony.

Section 4: A GS member who transfers to another EMS high school and brings a letter from the principal or adviser to the new school adviser shall be accepted automatically as a member.

Section 5: Freshmen members who resign or are dismissed are eligible for membership in the next school year.

#### **ARTICLE V: SELECTION OF MEMBERS**

Section 1: To be eligible for membership in the fall, the candidate must be a in the first semester of their freshman or sophomore year. To be eligible for spring membership, a candidate must be in the second semester of their freshman year.

Section 2: The minimum standard for scholarship shall be a maintained cumulative scholastic average of at least 85%. Candidates shall then be evaluated on the basis of service (12 hours in the last 9 months), leadership, and character as outlined in Article V, Section I.

Section 3: Prior to notification of any candidates, the chapter adviser shall review with the principal the results of the application process.

#### **ARTICLE VI: DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL**

Section 1: **Members who fall below the standards that were the basis for their selection shall be promptly warned in writing by the adviser and given 3 weeks to correct the deficiency, except in the case of flagrant violation of school rules or the law, a member does not have to be warned.**

Section 2: Members will be placed on probation after the 3rd meeting absence. Members will be dismissed after the 5<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence.

Section 3: A member who has been dismissed may appeal the decision to the principal within 2 weeks of the date of the dismissal. The principal may invoke the FAC.

#### **ARTICLE VII: CHAPTER OFFICERS**

Section 1: The offices of president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, and historian and their duties, and the method of their election are described below.

Section 2: A member must fill out an officer application form and return completed by the due date. The advisor will have an informal meeting with each applicant to review application.

Section 3: If 2 or more members apply for an officer position, there will be an election at the next meeting after induction ceremony (or a special meeting). No campaigning will be allowed. Each applicant must prepare a speech (no more than 2 minutes) to give in front of the members. Voting ballots will be distributed, filled, and collected at the end of the meeting. Only members present at the meeting can vote and there must be a majority of members present. Ballots will be counted by advisor(s) and the results posted promptly.

Section 4: New officers shall be installed at the next meeting and honored in the spring induction ceremony.

Section 5: Officer-meetings will be semi-monthly with the advisor: one work meeting and one planning meeting. Officers who do not meet obligations of duties or attendance will be dismissed from their position.

## **ARTICLE VIII: CHAPTER OFFICER DUTIES**

Section 1: The duties of the president will be:

- Preside over monthly GS meetings
- Prepare an agenda with advisor
- Must check in with advisor weekly
- Help prepare club activities for the school year
- Delegate/monitor “jobs” for officers and member

Section 2: The duties of the vice-president will be:

- Keep records of all service hours and meetings/event attendance as a “hard copy”
- Must check in and do work with advisor weekly
- Develop a monthly and semester calendar as display and e-file with the advisor

Section 3: The duties of the secretary will be:

- Take and read minutes at every meeting
- Prepare warning letters for members lacking in hours/attendance

Section 4: The duties of the historian will be:

- Work with advisor with communications to members via social media
- Advertise the club’s activities to community
- Photograph events for social media and yearbook. All photographs must be submitted to the advisor within one week of the event.

Section 5: The duties of the treasurer will be:

- Record and collect all money from members or events.

## **ARTICLE IX: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Section 1: The executive committee shall consist of the officers and adviser.

Section 2: The executive committee shall meet between its business meetings, to have general supervision of the affairs of the club, make recommendations to the club, and determine and perform such other duties as are specified in the bylaws. All actions and recommendations of the executive committee shall be subject to the review of the membership.

Section 3: The executive committee shall have the responsibility for ensuring that club activities and procedures follow school policy and regulations.

## **ARTICLE X: MEETINGS**

Section 1: The club shall have regular monthly meetings during the school year on days designated by the executive committee and in accordance with school policy and regulations.

Section 2: The president or other designated student leader and adviser may call special meetings of the executive committee.

Section 3: The club shall learn to conduct meetings following Robert's *Rules of Order*.

## **ARTICLE XI: ACTIVITIES**

Section 1: The club shall participate in at least one service project per semester.

Section 2: All members shall regularly participate in these projects, club meetings, and other non-school related community service activities, accumulating a minimum of 15 club hours and 15 individual service hours resulting in a total of 30 hours per school year. Club hours are accumulated from attendance to meetings and other club activities.

Section 3: These projects/activities 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;
- be well planned, organized, and executed.

Section 4: Each member shall have the responsibility of monitoring his/her accumulated hours and **supply proof** of non-chapter hours. **Proof** must have details of service, contact names with signatures and phone numbers on organization letterhead for confirmation (as the membership application requires).

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