

***NEW YORK STATE  
MATHEMATICS HONOR SOCIETY CONSTITUTION***

**ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE**

- Section 1:** The name of this Society shall be the New York State Mathematics Honor Society (NYSMHS).
- Section 2:** The purpose of this society shall be to :
- A. Provide recognition of achievement in mathematics at all levels for high school students.
  - B. Enhance knowledge and understanding of mathematics among all levels of mathematics students, by promoting scholarship and enjoyment through activities at various appropriate levels.
  - C. Create enthusiasm for scholarship, strengthen skills, promote leadership, and develop character.
  - D. Foster collegiality, as well as develop maturity and independence, by providing students the opportunity to come together with common purposes: a commitment to service and dedication to excellence.
  - E. Strengthen the understanding and skills, including problem solving, of mathematics.
  - F. Encourage students to seek mathematics and technology-related careers.
  - G. Encourage talented mathematics students to help other students develop an interest and achievement in mathematics.
  - H. Encourage and support the development of local Society chapters.
  - I. Provide parents the opportunity to recognize and appreciate the mathematical accomplishments of their children.

**ARTICLE II: BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

- Section 1:** The Board of Governors shall consist of nine (9) members: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, one (1) representatives from - the Association of the Mathematics Teachers of New York State (AMTNYS), the Mathematics Department of the State Education Department or their designee, and the New York State Association of Mathematics Supervisors (NYSAMS), and an officer from each of two (2) officially recognized local chapters.
- Section 2:** It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Governors to develop and enforce policies which will govern the operation of all levels of the New York State Mathematics Honor Society.
- Section 3:** The representatives of AMTNYS and NYSAMS shall be appointed according to the rules as established by each

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**ARTICLE II: BOARD OF GOVERNORS (continued)**

- Section 4:** The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and the local chapter representatives shall be appointed by AMTNYS Executive Board for the first two years of Society operation. From that point forward, the office of Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and local chapter representatives shall be elected as described in Article III.
- Section 5:** Each member of the Board of Governors shall serve a term of office of two (2) years, with the exception of the Vice-Chairperson.
- Section 6:** The Vice-Chairperson will automatically accede to the Chairpersonship of the Board of Governors upon the completion of the present Chairperson's term of office.
- Section 7:** The Secretary, Treasurer, and local chapter representatives, if duly elected, may succeed themselves for two additional consecutive terms of office.
- Section 8:** The Board of Governors shall:
- A. charter local chapters.
  - B. approve chapter names.
  - C. designate chapter registration numbers.
  - D. establish and collect fees.
  - E. review and approve chapter by-laws and annual reports.
  - F. establish subcommittees as needed.
  - G. review and approve applications for Honorary membership.
  - H. be empowered to enforce its decisions regulating the conduct of its affairs as set forth within this constitution.
  - I. accede to office on July 1 following the May election.
- Section 9:** An official annual meeting of the Board of Governors shall be called by the Chairman of the Board and will be held at the AMTNYS annual conference.
- Section 10:** The Board of Governors shall have the authority to censure, suspend or revoke any member or local chapter membership in the Society for being in violation of the goals and regulations or non-payment of fees as set forth in this constitution.
- Section 11:** Responsibilities of the Board of Governors' Officers
- A. The Chairperson shall:**
- 1. preside over all meetings of the Board of Governors.
  - 2. oversee the implementation of the policies established by the Board of Governors.
  - 3. call additional meetings of the Board of Governors no later than thirty(30) days after a request for a meeting by a majority of its members.
  - 4. be empowered to fill vacancies on the Board of Governors created by death, resignation, or inability to serve.

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**ARTICLE II: BOARD OF GOVERNORS (continued)**

**B. The Vice-Chairperson shall:**

1. fulfill the duties of the Chairperson in the event of the Chairperson's absence.
2. convene subcommittee chairmanship meetings.

**C. The Secretary shall:**

1. keep the minutes of all official meetings of the Board of Governors.
2. report communications to the Board of Governors.
3. write communications as directed by the Board of Governors.
4. send all copies of communications to the Society Historian.

**D. The Treasurer shall:**

1. keep all records of Society transactions.
2. transfer Society funds as directed by the Board of Governors.
3. pay Society obligations approved by the Board of Governors.
4. receive and record local chapter fees.
5. coordinate all functions associated with the office of the Society with the Treasurer of AMTNYS.

**ARTICLE III: ELECTION PROCEDURES**

- Section 1:** In December of the final year of the Chairperson's Term:
- A. the Chairperson shall appoint a nominating committee of five (5) to prepare a slate of candidates for election to the Board of Governors.
  - B. the nominating committee shall consist of the Vice-Chairperson, one (1) director, and three (3) local chapter advisors.
  - C. The Chairperson will contact the AMTNYS Executive Board, NYSAMS Executive Board, and the representative of the Mathematics Department of the State Education Department for the names of their appointees to the NYSMHS Board of Governors.

- Section 2:** The slate of nominees shall consist of a minimum of two (2) candidates for each elective position and shall be mailed to the chapter advisor(s) and the Board of Governors, not less than three (3) weeks prior to a May election.

- Section 3:** Provisions shall be made for open nominations from the chapter advisors by petition. The petition must be signed by three (3) eligible voters and submitted to the nominating committee not less than two (2) weeks prior to February 1.

- Section 4:** Each chapter is entitled to cast one vote.

- Section 5:** The nominating committee chairman will report the new slate of officers to the AMTNYS Executive Board as soon as the election results are official.

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**ARTICLE IV: LOCAL CHAPTER REQUIREMENTS**

- Section 1:** Schools seeking to initiate a chapter must submit to the Board of Governors the “New Chapter Application Form”, the appropriate fees and a copy of their local chapter constitution and by-laws.
- Section 2:** All membership responsibilities must be in compliance with the State Constitution.
- Section 3:** Additions or deletions to membership responsibilities must be approved by the Board of Governors.
- Section 4:** Guidelines and responsibilities of sponsors and officers must be approved by the Board of Governors.
- Section 5:** Each Chapter will submit an annual report no later than June 30 of each year to the secretary of the Board of Governors. This report should include the following:
- A. sponsored activities and events.
  - B. mathematical honors, achievements and recognition for individuals or chapters from the previous year.
  - C. additional information a chapter may wish to convey regarding its operation.
  - D. list of all student members and faculty advisors.

**ARTICLE V: STUDENT MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

- Section 1:** The applicant must be a high school student.
- Section 2:** Membership shall be based upon mathematics scholarship, service, character, and citizenship.
- Section 3:** Applicants must have successfully completed a minimum of three (3) semesters of high school/college mathematics.
- Section 4:** Applicants shall have a minimum mathematics scholarship of 85% or its equivalent.
- Section 5:** Applicants are required to have an overall scholastic average of 85% or its equivalent.
- Section 6:** Applicants must submit all supporting documentation as outlined in the local chapter constitution
- Section 7:** Applicants must submit two faculty recommendations, at least one of which must be from the mathematics department.
- Section 8:** Applicants must continue to demonstrate mathematical scholarship, service, character and citizenship to maintain membership.

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**ARTICLE VI :MISCELLANEOUS**

**Section 1:** Honorary Membership

- A. Alumni and adults who have taken an active role in furthering the cause of mathematics and mathematics education may become honorary members of the New York State Mathematics Honor Society.
- B. Honorary members may be nominated by any active Society member.
- C. Honorary member nominations must be submitted to the Board of Governors for action.

**Section 2:** Historian

- A. The Historian will be appointed by the Board of Governors.
- B. The Historian will provide an ongoing chronicle of the events that take place in, and as a result of, the New York State Mathematics Honor Society.

**ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1:** Constitutional amendments must be submitted in writing no later than thirty (30) days prior to a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Governors by any local chapter or two (2) members of the Board of Governors.

**Section 2:** Discussion of an amendment will take place at the first scheduled Board meeting after its receipt.

**Section 3:** A vote on a previously discussed amendment must be taken no later than the second Board meeting after its receipt and may be done by mail. Passage shall require a two-thirds vote of the entire Board of Governors.

**Section 4:** The chapters and the AMTNYS Executive Board will be notified by the NYSMHS Secretary of any changes to the Constitution in writing no later than thirty days (30) after they have been approved by the NYSMHS Board of Governors.

**ARTICLE VIII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Robert's Rules of Order, Revised (latest revision), shall be the authority on all questions of procedure not set forth in this Constitution.

**ARTICLE IX: DISSOLUTION**

If it becomes necessary, the Board of Governors has the power to dissolve the NYSMHS. All assets must be transferred to a non profit organization devoted to the recognition of mathematics achievement.