

## ***ST. VINCENT-ST. MARY CHAPTER STANDARDS***

***Academic Standard:*** Members must maintain a 3.5 accumulative grade point average (the same average required for selection). If your accum falls below the standard, you will be placed on probation for one semester. If at the end of that semester, your accum is still below a 3.5, you will be dismissed from NHS. (This is a national standard.) Seniors who are on probation during their final semester and who fail to achieve the 3.5 by the end of the year will not be permitted to wear the honor medallion at graduation.

***Character and Conduct Standard:*** Members are expected to maintain a high standard of character and conduct as defined below:

- constantly exemplifies desirable qualities of personality (cheerfulness, friendliness, poise, stability)
- takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously
- upholds principles of morality and ethics; is law-abiding and practices good citizenship
- cooperates by complying with school regulations and policies regarding attendance, property, programs, dress code, tobacco/alcohol/drug use, general code of conduct, etc.**
- demonstrates the highest standards of honesty, reliability, truthfulness and integrity; **has no violations of the school's honor code**
- shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others
- observes instructions and rules, punctuality, and faithfulness both inside and outside the classroom
- has powers of concentration and sustained attention as shown by perseverance in application to studies
- challenges himself/herself to work to ability and to pursue excellence in the classroom
- is a positive role model for peers and others; demonstrates respect for self and others
- has an exemplary discipline record while a student at STVM as verified by the Dean of Students**

Members who accumulate a number of demerits, receive an out-of-school suspension, or are guilty of serious violations of the school's Code of Conduct will be reviewed by the NHS Faculty Council with consequences of probation or dismissal.

***Service Standard:*** Members are required to help with a minimum of one of the following service activities: Cancer Club Rummage Sale, Curriculum Night, Open House Tour Guide, Power of the Pen, or Join Hands Day. *Also, those members who go "above and beyond" participating in six or more service activities earn special recognition at our awards ceremony at our final meeting.*

***Meeting Attendance Standard:*** Attendance at monthly meetings is required. A member who accumulates more than three (3) unexcused absences from monthly meetings will be considered for dismissal. Absences from school equal an excused absence from a meeting. If you are in school, but are not able to attend for a valid reason, you must see the advisor personally, and explain the circumstances; otherwise your absence will be designated an "unexcused" absence. After each meeting, the chapter secretary will give the advisor a list of absent members; the advisor will designate as "excused" or "unexcused" and return to the chapter secretary.

***Financial Obligation Standard:*** Officers with the advice of the chapter advisor will determine the annual budget and dues. Funds are needed to pay for dues to the national organization, the holiday favors for St. Edward's Home, the "doughnut day" for homeroom winners of the Books for the Bahamas competition, scholarship application fees for our NHS scholarship nominees, our yearbook ad, senior awards at the end of the year, and a few other odds and end. In addition, seniors must pay a fee toward the purchase of the honor medallion worn at graduation (the school pays 75% and seniors pay 25%--about \$4.00. Veteran members must pay dues by the December meeting in order to continue membership during the second semester; new members must pay dues by the February meeting. If the officers decide to engage the chapter in a fundraising activity, all members will be expected to contribute to the fundraiser (such as baked goods) or pay an equivalent assessment. Failure to meet the financial obligations of membership will result in dismissal from NHS for seniors and denial of the privilege of wearing the honor medallion; junior members will forfeit their membership for senior year.