



Science National Honor Society

Ideas to be used running an SNHS chapter in a high school

The SNHS does not have a set of requirements to be placed on a teacher to become an advisor. We feel that people who are able to volunteer their time apart from their teaching duties are well able to become an effective advisor.

We feel that organizing an effective chapter is first and foremost another teaching job with an ability to get a set of gifted and highly motivated students to move in a chosen direction. We feel that chapters should concentrate on service to the school and the community and to concentrate on moving ahead with their understanding of science around them.

Chapters in the SNHS operate in a very open organization. We find that the creativity among the chapters leads to an enormous number of ideas that make an SNHS chapter highly useful and beneficial addition to each school. Some of the ideas that we foster are:

1. Chapters require that members give short talks to the rest of the group about some scientific topic that they have interest. Each member should have this opportunity each year. The officers are required to do this during each school year.
2. The chapter should invite scientists, engineers, or doctors and dentists from local universities or businesses to talk to the chapter on scientific activities at that organization. This activity helps the chapter to think about career opportunities in their future.
3. Chapters should visit local universities or colleges to get to see real science occurring within their community. Some schools are rural and may not see some of these opportunities but ranches and farms have a lot of scientific operations there too.

4. SNHS Chapter members provide tutoring or other academic assistance to other students in science or math subjects. This allows the SNHS chapter to provide good community services to the school and provides marketing to other students who may want to join your chapter. This is especially good if they can provide tutoring services for younger students who may have trouble with math or science in their grades.

5. Environmental services like recycling programs on your campus or in your city is a popular activity to get the students out in the public and develop their abilities to present their ideas and develop their people skills. Some groups will clean up the entire campus and get other students working with them on a Saturday or other appropriate day.

6. SNHS students can assist in setting up or operating science fairs for elementary students from the local school district. This allows the students to get experience in organizing and directing other students and workers to set and operate a science fair. Some of them may also be act as judges for the science fair.

7. Creating a blog on the SNHS web site will allow your students to chronicle the activities during the year and perhaps post a photo or two of your activities.

8. Taking part in online webinars sponsored by SNHS or other organizations allow the students to see what is happening in other parts of the country and in scientific activities that they may know much about.

9. Science Olympiad and Robotics competitions create arenas where the SNHS members can acquire new schools and work hard to bring honors to their school.