

NEHS Webinars: Chapter Kick-Off
September 22, 2022

[00:00:30.080]

Welcome everybody, to our first webinar of the school year.

[00:00:34.120]

My name is Breanne Hicks and I have served as a Chapter Advisor for eleven years,

[00:00:39.040]

and I'm currently on the Advisory Council representing the Southwestern Region.

[00:00:44.160]

I'm joined here tonight with my colleagues

[00:00:46.840]

David and Christopher, and they're going to introduce themselves in just a moment.

[00:00:50.680]

But if you'll please take the time to go to the chat function and put your name

[00:00:56.000]

and your school. During the webinar, you will be on mute,

[00:01:00.760]

but feel free at any time to put your questions into the Q&A,

[00:01:05.240]

and at the very end will take you off mute and allow you to answer these questions.

[00:01:09.360]

Welcome everybody.

[00:01:10.760]

Sorry for the delayed start.

[00:01:14.600]

So now it's going to take this opportunity

[00:01:16.320]

to let Chris and David introduce themselves and tell you more about them.

[00:01:21.320]

Hi, everybody. My name is Chris Lockwood.

[00:01:23.440]

I work at Instituto Blaise Pascale in Oaxaca, Mexico.

[00:01:26.480]

And I'm the international representative on the Advisory Council.

[00:01:31.880]

And I'm David Hebestreit from Michigan.

[00:01:34.640]

I'm a Midwest representative

[00:01:35.840]

on the Advisory Council, and I teach at a high school in Lavonia, Michigan.

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My 25th year doing that.

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So you're attending tonight is

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evidence of how NEHS continues to grow.

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Currently we had close to 25,000 new members enroll last school year.

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We have 924 active chapters, both here in the United States and internationally.

[00:02:02.720]

Currently, our membership fee is \$15.

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This is a one time fee, and this fee, coupled with our chapter annual

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affiliation fee, covers our scholarships, our grants, awards, and any administrative

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costs that we do have. For students who are unable to afford the \$15 membership fee.

[00:02:21.520]

Advisors can submit applications to qualify for a reduced fee of \$5.

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And a link for this application will be available to you at the resource page.

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So, we're going to begin tonight with some

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general chapter planning tools that are available to you on our website.

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I would like to first start with the sample year-long calendars.

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These calendars will help you organize

[00:02:47.400]

your chapter activities and help you set goals for the future.

[00:02:51.160]

In addition to this website.

[00:02:52.680]

And again, we have the link there on the left hand side of the PowerPoint.

[00:02:56.440]

And this entire PowerPoint will be emailed

[00:02:58.600]

to you by Monday so that you have access to all this information.

[00:03:02.440]

But here with the online calendars, we also have a link

[00:03:06.560]

to Linganore High School, which is one of our more active chapters,

[00:03:10.160]

so that you could follow along and get some ideas for your own chapter.

[00:03:16.160]

Another resource we have available for you is the Chapter Checklist.

[00:03:20.120]

This is a comprehensive list of all

[00:03:22.280]

of the tasks to be accomplished, complete with an Excel spreadsheet

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for those of you who like to track your progress.

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And then within that list, we've also hyperlinked different sections.

[00:03:33.480]

Like you can see induction ceremony or

[00:03:36.240]

NEHS pins to provide more detailed information and models for your chapter.

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And then lastly, I'd like to take you to the Chapter Guide link.

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There you'll find more information about managing a chapter.

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In particular, I'd like for you to check

[00:03:53.880]

out the section about how to create your bylaws.

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You definitely want to read this section

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before you begin crafting them because some of the areas of the bylaws are

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dictated by NEHS guidelines like GPA minimums and then other areas

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of the bylaws offer more flexibility like chapter meeting frequency.

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So again, these resources are available for you online.

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In addition, we have links to different bylaws from two different schools.

[00:04:19.200]

One is a public high school and one is

[00:04:21.000]

an independent private school just to give you some variety of models.

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So now I'm going to pass over

[00:04:26.640]

to Christopher so he can tell you more about NEHS Connect.

[00:04:30.440]

Super. Thank you, Breanne.

[00:04:31.720]

So NEHS Connect is our one-stop shop for enrolling new members to pay

[00:04:36.400]

membership fees ordering graduation merchandise for your students.

[00:04:40.200]

For now, I think what we will focus on is enrolling members.

[00:04:43.760]

So when you log into NEHS you're going to connect with a home page like this.

[00:04:49.080]

And there's a section on the left halfway down called Available Functions.

[00:04:52.840]

So here you need to click

[00:04:54.240]

on Chapter Administration and then on the next slide you'll see the page there.

[00:05:03.080]

And if you can click on Manage Members,

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you see a range of options on the next here we go.

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So the range of options there underneath

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Manage Members, including individual member enrollment,

[00:05:13.560]

Board member enrollment and Pay Enrollment fees.

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So what you can see on the screen right now is the individual member enrollment.

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And this gives you a form to fill out with key details about your students.

[00:05:24.400]

If you have a very small group or a lot

[00:05:27.080]

of time, this may be a really good way to enroll your members.

[00:05:31.080]

If not, the bulk member enrollment on the next

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page will allow you to download an Excel template and you can fill it out

[00:05:42.640]

with student data.

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so here you can see there is a link to download the Excel template file.

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And there are some YouTube tutorials available to help you if you need that

[00:05:55.800]

with this process, uploading them.

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So once you've completed your Excel, you upload it to the website and then you

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will be able to see all your students will open a list for you.

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This is the point at which you need to check the spelling of names when it's

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really important that we have the names of your students correctly.

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Because the NEHS Central Office generates member certificates and once they're

[00:06:15.920]

mailed out, it's very difficult to change them.

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So once you get your students uploaded,

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you can click on Pay enrollment fees and there you can set the members you wish

[00:06:25.800]

to enroll and you can choose to pay via credit card or check.

[00:06:29.320]

Once that's obviously processed, you get a receipt and your student

[00:06:32.080]

certificates wing themselves toward you in the mail.

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The last thing to mention here is the Chapter store.

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This is a store which is only available to Chapter Advisors and requires a password,

[00:06:43.800]

which is shown on the screen where the link is.

[00:06:46.440]

So when you click on the link, this opens another web page and you're

[00:06:50.240]

able to see a selection of graduation merchandise.

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And in the menu on the left,

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you can see the options for clothing and group orders too.

[00:06:58.400]

So again, then you can pay via credit card or check.

[00:07:02.000]

Now, any support you need

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with NEHS Connect or the store can be dealt with by the staff at the Central

[00:07:09.240]

Office, they're computer whizzes and they can give you all the help you need.

[00:07:14.280]

Okay, the next thing I like to talk about is the Chapter Spotlight project.

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So this is one of the newest projects from NEHS.

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The origins of this line,

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the fact that we know that hundreds and hundreds of chapters all around the world

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are doing amazing things at local, state, national, and international level.

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And we here at NEHS want to celebrate those achievements as well.

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And we want to recognize the efforts being made by both the students and the teachers

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who work as Chapter Advisors and share them with our community on a wider scale.

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So, three submission windows during

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the year for you to share any material you wish.

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That could be short text,

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it can be photos, it can be videos of the activities you've done.

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And these submission windows are the same

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as the writing competition submission windows.

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I think Dave is going to explain those

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in a moment, but for now, though, it's suffice to say that there is one

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in late fall, one in late winter and one in the spring.

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At this point, I think it's probably important to mention that we'd welcome any

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projects that fall within the three categories mentioned here. So it's Chapter

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Innovation, Academic Motivation, and Community Engagement.

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On the website, under the chapters

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sort of tab, you'll find a description of each one and some suggested activities

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in case you need some ideas to begin the year. In terms of awards

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and recognition with the best submissions that can be shared with the NEHS community

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on NEHS social media and in the NEHS newsletters.

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And those chapters who are featured will

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receive a \$50 award and the certificate from NEHS too.

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So we really do hope that you can keep

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this in mind throughout the year and send us the materials so we can share

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and celebrate the excellence that we know is occurring in all your chapters.

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So I'm going to hand on to Dave,

[00:08:57.880]

who's going to talk to you about the writing competitions.

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Hello, everybody.

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We have a lot of competitions

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and opportunities for chapter members to take part in.

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The very first one is the Intellectual Freedom Challenge

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contest, which coincides with the Banned Books Month and ask sophomores

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and juniors to respond to the idea of censorship in an essay format.

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Personally, I can't think of a more important thing for students to be doing

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at the beginning of the year, but discussing this important issue

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and the idea of we all know that censorship is really controlling thought.

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And so students just discussing this,

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even short of them submitting an essay, it's still important work inside

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the chapter for them to be discussing this, and then hopefully that work

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in the chapter does push them to submit for the contest.

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But the dates of this are coming quickly.

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The window opens on September 6 for this, and it closes October 3.

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These essays are read and evaluated

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by college professors, and this is the contest that kind of kicks

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off the year. Next to talk about the writing contests.

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There are three of them.

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They're super competitive with lots of entries.

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Every year, they give chapter members a chance to explore different genres.

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This first one of the year is a flash fiction, six-word story.

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We're going to take a look at the dates

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when we go to the last slide in a little bit here.

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But these entries are evaluated by Advisory Council members.

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The first one is six-word story. We know,

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I think we can all agree that the first

[00:10:33.120]

one is credited to Ernest Hemingway with: "For Sale.

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Baby shoes never worn."

[00:10:39.440]

And that's kind of the start of the six- word story, the six-word memoir.

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That's the first writing contest of the year.

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The second and third genres are going to be posted very soon.

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And the last thing I wanted to talk about

[00:10:52.600]

is the Common Reader Scholarships. This year's.

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Common Reader is Beautiful Country by Qian

[00:10:59.720]

Julie Wang and this is for seniors, and it asks them to read a common text

[00:11:05.920]

and to respond to it, to select a prompt to respond to.

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The prompts are generated by Advisory

[00:11:13.240]

Council members and the contest awards money.

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There's a big chunk of money that's awarded for the contest this year.

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The rubric will be exposed in early

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December for this, and then the prompts are developed a little bit before that.

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So in November, the prompts are developed and the rubric is exposed in December.

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And those are the wonderful writing

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opportunities and concepts that we have in NEHS.

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And we're looking to inspire students

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to have their voices heard and to publish and to get on that train a little bit.

[00:11:52.960]

I think this is passing it on, right, Christopher.

[00:12:01.240]

Yeah.

[00:12:01.600]

So what we've got here then, are the dates for the Project Grants

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and Classroom Library Grants, which is between now and October 3.

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So that's coming up very quick.

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If you're interested in that as Chapter

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Advisor, the information is available on the website.

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There's a second window March 13 to April 10, for the Project Grants

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and the Summer Study Awards for juniors who will be seniors if they plan to go

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and take an English-related course during the summer.

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They can apply for some support,

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financial support, from NEHS. And Advisor Grants,

[00:12:33.920]

grants for Chapter Advisors in various fields

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is an ongoing application throughout the year.

[00:12:41.520]

And this is Award Spring, which is where students will

[00:12:47.520]

upload their essays for the Intellectual Freedom Challenge.

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And the deadline for that, again,

[00:12:54.880]

like they said, is October 3 at 11:59 p.m. Central Time.

[00:13:02.320]

And then this is a comprehensive list of all of the writing contests and awards,

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both for chapter members and for Advisors and other faculty as well.

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So you can see this comprehensive list.

[00:13:15.480]

As we've said, this whole PowerPoint will be sent out to everyone and you can take

[00:13:19.840]

a look at all this, but we have all the dates listed here

[00:13:22.680]

in a comprehensive fashion in one place for you, one stop shopping.

[00:13:29.200]

This last slide is just a group

[00:13:30.800]

of resources here that you will find very helpful.

[00:13:33.640]

We've talked about many of these things today, but you can click on these or you

[00:13:37.520]

can get information from these links or from the people associated with them here.

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So you'll get this on Monday.

[00:13:47.320]

So I think we're ready to move into the Q and A portion of the webinar.

[00:13:51.680]

First, I wanted to give a shout out to another Advisory Council member who is

[00:13:55.400]

here in the chat and that is Jim Brady from New Jersey.

[00:13:58.400]

So Jim, thank you for joining us today.

[00:14:00.680]

And again, just a reminder, if you'll go up to the upper right hand

[00:14:04.320]

side and next to the chat box, you'll see the Q and A box.

[00:14:07.680]

And please feel free to put your question or your comment there if you would like.

[00:14:11.840]

And then Dave will read those out to us

[00:14:13.880]

and then Chris and I will do our best to answer them.

[00:14:16.760]

Yeah, and the first one here is what happens at an induction?

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I can answer that.

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I think as I talked about the diplomas that will come from NEHS for new students.

[00:14:29.680]

So in your chapters at your schools will

[00:14:32.240]

receive a packet of new certificates for newly enrolled students and those

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students need to be inducted at an induction ceremony.

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This ceremony can be as big and as

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elaborate or as simple, as short as you guys decide in your schools.

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There is online a

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sample script for an induction ceremony, which works for chapters that are new

[00:14:57.720]

chapters, recently chartered chapters who need to enroll their first committee,

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their first president, treasurer, and secretary, etc.

[00:15:06.120]

For and then for following years where secretaries and treasurers and presidents

[00:15:09.800]

pass on to other students and they end up the students.

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That's all available online as a guide.

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But again, like I said, it's very flexible.

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These induction ceremony really can

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represent the personality of your chapter and your school.

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Yeah, and they can be fun.

[00:15:28.240]

They can be fun and they can be different.

[00:15:29.880]

Like Christopher said, they can be very unique,

[00:15:31.680]

and I know that we've had some fun with that at my school.

[00:15:34.360]

So the next question is, what are some of the projects that Advisors apply for?

[00:15:41.640]

I think we're talking about grants and stuff, right?

[00:15:44.440]

Do you want to elaborate on the grants,

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Chris, and maybe talk about the journal that you did?

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Yeah.

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So basically there are a range of awards that are available, grants that are

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available to Advisors, for various activities, which can be

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professional texts that you might use to help with your teaching,

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access to speakers, presentations, things like that.

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Going to conferences is a certain amount

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of money available for those Advisor grants.

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There are also grants for chapter

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projects, and these chapter projects can be service projects,

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projects that work with broader language and literature appreciation

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activities that work with people within the local community.

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And they're basically unlimited as long as

[00:16:38.840]

they relate to English and literature and English language in some way.

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In my case at my school, during the pandemic, we created a journal,

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a digital journal of student writing about pandemic experiences with

[00:16:57.440]

participation from kids in 15 countries.

[00:16:59.600]

That was a really nice project that we've done. Last year

[00:17:03.560]

we did a project to make a mini conference for students at the school,

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which was also a really good opportunity for the kids to produce work themselves.

[00:17:14.880]

So basically what we can say there is that the project, the options are unlimited.

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Each request is analyzed and evaluated

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on an individual basis and we welcome new ideas.

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So any ideas that you and your students

[00:17:32.720]

have, you can submit that for potential grant funding.

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Excellent.

[00:17:40.440]

The next one here is

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I was looking on the NEHS website and it was talking about the officers,

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like president and vice president, et cetera.

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Do we have to vote each other for that?

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So that's a good question.

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I know for my school,

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when I first started, I had a president, a vice president, and a secretary.

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And the students did vote

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on that particular member that they wanted to be in those roles.

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But we do not have anything that I'm aware

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of in the bylaws that mandates how you select your officers.

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And that can change as well.

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I realize that I no longer I didn't really need a treasure like I thought I would

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and was just kind of giving these traditional roles and then realized

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that my chapter would be much better served by having a president and then

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a campus and community service coordinator because we try to partner with the lower

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school and other neighboring elementary schools.

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And so instead of a treasurer position, I realized that I needed someone to take

[00:18:40.320]

a leadership position within the campus coordinating.

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So you do have freedom as far as what type

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of leadership you want to have and how you elect that leadership.

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Yeah, and in my school we're a relatively new chapter.

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We had like 35 students that first year that were inducted and they all voted

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for who they wanted on there to be their leadership group.

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And it was five, I think five positions.

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And once those five were named,

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they got to pick what position they wanted based on or they figured out amongst

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themselves what position they were going to be in.

[00:19:11.560]

So again, that's given them a little bit

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of autonomy inside of that, which is really nice.

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But again, like Breanne said, you can do it however you want within reason.

[00:19:20.640]

I think there's also the opportunity

[00:19:22.960]

to have different people in different roles during different semesters as well.

[00:19:27.960]

So you don't need to elect them before the whole year.

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Those roles can change if you have a lot

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of students who want to participate in those leadership positions. Yeah, and don't

[00:19:37.920]

we always find the case that the ones that want to be part in the leadership

[00:19:40.880]

positions are the most busy kids in the school?

[00:19:43.080]

Right. Anyway, they're doing everything else.

[00:19:45.320]

So it is good to have that,

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like you said, to fall back on.

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So the next one is can I pay the \$15 myself, or does a parent have to do it?

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I think that's talking about

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the membership fee, I'm not sure if they mean for a student,

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but Christopher, you want to take that one?

[00:20:02.040]

Yeah.

[00:20:02.480]

So the payment is made in general by the school.

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It's often the easiest and most logical way for everything to happen.

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It allows us to generate batches of certificates for students as well.

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So in most cases, in most cases, the \$15 is something the students pay

[00:20:23.320]

to the school and the school transfers or pays to NEHS,

[00:20:28.840]

and that is probably the most efficient way of making the payments.

[00:20:34.320]

And all that money can be collected

[00:20:36.360]

by the treasurer, and the treasurer can deal with that with the Chapter Advisor.

[00:20:41.320]

And in the past, I have paid for myself.

[00:20:44.840]

I would have the students bring me

[00:20:46.440]

the money and then I would use my credit card to avoid having to go through

[00:20:49.840]

the process of filling out the purchase orders.

[00:20:52.560]

And so you always run the risk of someone maybe not bringing the \$15.

[00:20:56.920]

But again, if you set the deadline

[00:20:58.440]

and that the dues are due by this particular time, then if they don't pay

[00:21:02.320]

the \$15, you can go back and add them at a later time.

[00:21:05.720]

You don't have to do the entire batch at once, but it does make it easier,

[00:21:09.400]

as Chris was telling us, to enter the batch to the Excel spreadsheet.

[00:21:14.080]

And I'm pretty sure that on the other

[00:21:16.120]

side, on the NEHS staff side, it's much easier when you do it

[00:21:20.400]

with a credit card if you can, than the other way around.

[00:21:23.200]

It's just quicker for them and easier.

[00:21:25.960]

Our next question is, can students join in the beginning of the year?

[00:21:32.080]

So you really get the opportunity to decide when you're going to do your—

[00:21:36.960]

first of all, how you're going to invite members, if you're going to have an open

[00:21:40.080]

invitation, or if you are going to invite members based on a GPA.

[00:21:45.080]

And again, as I mentioned

[00:21:46.160]

in my presentation, the minimum overall cumulative GPA for all

[00:21:50.760]

of the courses needs to be a 3.5. But you're allowed to really decide what you

[00:21:55.360]

want to do with your English GPA requirements.

[00:21:57.960]

For example, my overall cumulative English GPA requirement is a 3.7. And we

[00:22:03.880]

have chapters that invite students at the beginning of the year.

[00:22:07.280]

We have chapters who invite students at the end of the year.

[00:22:10.320]

Same with the induction ceremony.

[00:22:11.720]

It doesn't have to take place in the fall or the spring.

[00:22:14.400]

We have found that if you are going to induct in the fall,

[00:22:18.680]

that oftentimes it's better to invite students to be members in the late spring.

[00:22:24.440]

That way, if you're going to have elections

[00:22:27.080]

for officer positions, you can have that done and taken care of.

[00:22:30.200]

And that way, if officers want to meet

[00:22:31.840]

and plan some stuff together during the summer, they have that opportunity.

[00:22:35.200]

And then your officers are already

[00:22:36.960]

established so then they can serve as leaders during the induction ceremony.

[00:22:42.880]

Wonderfully comprehensive answer.

[00:22:44.600]

Thank you, Breanne.

[00:22:45.800]

Next one is with the student with the fee reduction,

[00:22:49.840]

we get an application, have the students filled out.

[00:22:52.400]

Then what happens after that?

[00:22:54.160]

So how do they process the fee

[00:22:56.280]

reduction? So that application gets passed

[00:23:00.200]

to the NEHS director in the NEHS Advisory Council,

[00:23:04.080]

and those cases are looked at on an individual basis.

[00:23:07.880]

And then we will get back to the student

[00:23:10.520]

and the Chapter Advisor with the information.

[00:23:13.280]

Is that the student that fills it out?

[00:23:15.120]

I was going to say actually the Advisor

[00:23:17.800]

will fill that out on behalf of the student and submit it.

[00:23:22.600]

Next one is, can we come back and watch this recording if we missed anything?

[00:23:29.200]

The answer to that is yes.

[00:23:30.680]

You're going to get on Monday,

[00:23:32.200]

you'll have an email of the PowerPoint presentation, of the slide presentation.

[00:23:36.000]

At some point, I believe the video will be transcribed and put up as well.

[00:23:40.760]

Is that right?

[00:23:47.000]

Okay. The next question, or last question is,

[00:23:50.480]

does this end in high school or does it continue through college?

[00:23:54.280]

Wonderful question.

[00:23:56.800]

Well, NEHS sadly finishes at the end

[00:24:01.000]

of high school with a high school graduation.

[00:24:02.760]

But NEHS forms part of Sigma Tau Delta,

[00:24:05.000]

which is the university English honor society.

[00:24:07.800]

So if you were an NEHS member and you go to a university that happens

[00:24:12.560]

to have a Sigma Tau Delta chapter, you can continue participating

[00:24:16.200]

in Sigma Tau Delta activities by joining the chapter at your university.

[00:24:20.640]

So this process,

[00:24:22.560]

the engagement with literature that NEHS provides you throughout high school,

[00:24:27.720]

can continue at university level, that's a really good question,

[00:24:31.560]

and we'd be very happy if the students who are NEHS members enroll

[00:24:36.120]

in the Sigma Tau Delta chapters when they reach university level.

[00:24:41.120]

That's the plan, right? Yes.

[00:24:44.640]

That's the end of our questions.

[00:24:46.360]

I don't know if we wanted to open up are

[00:24:49.080]

we opening up this talk with more questions or right now?

[00:24:54.520]

Namon, do we have the capability to unmute

[00:24:56.960]

the microphones for additional questions. Or if anyone just want to say hi?

[00:25:13.960]

Something I did want to bring everyone's attention to.

[00:25:16.400]

Elfi. She works in our Central Office.

[00:25:19.400]

She's on the chat. She wanted to remind us that in addition

[00:25:22.640]

to Sigma Tau Delta, which is the university level English Honor Society,

[00:25:28.160]

there's also a two-year English Honor Society called Sigma Kappa Delta.

[00:25:32.680]

So there's a lot of opportunities for students to continue their work

[00:25:36.080]

in the English Honor Society as they graduate from high school.

[00:25:40.000]

And Namon says yes.

[00:25:41.800]

And so if anybody would like to ask a question instead of typing it into the Q

[00:25:45.720]

and A, we can leave a few minutes for that.

[00:25:52.360]

If you would like to speak, if you'll just raise your hand and he will unmute you.

[00:26:22.240]

Welcome. Zoe.

[00:26:39.080]

While we wait for Zoe to get the mic,

[00:26:41.040]

I did want to also Kia had a great idea for a membership drive.

[00:26:45.680]

She said, due to the Pandemic, we are holding an open enrollment this

[00:26:48.920]

fall, along with our usual spring membership drive.

[00:26:51.880]

This way, folks that were behind can have a chance this year.

[00:26:54.520]

And I think that's a great idea.

[00:26:56.680]

And I also have something similar in my chapter.

[00:26:59.280]

We had a lot of students that were again,

[00:27:01.680]

they're so busy, and the original group that I had maybe

[00:27:05.480]

set the bar a little too high for points and activity and service points.

[00:27:08.600]

And so this year, because of the Pandemic,

[00:27:10.320]

also, we wipe the slate clean and everyone gets a free, fresh start here this year.

[00:27:16.720]

You have that ability as an Advisor inside your chapter to do those types of things.

[00:27:21.120]

So we're kind of overhauling that a little

[00:27:22.760]

bit inside of our chapter because I want to be more inclusive.

[00:27:28.280]

And again, like I've said,

[00:27:29.720]

those kids are doing so many, I think, student council and athletics,

[00:27:32.480]

and we have a strong Drama Capital acting department here, and they're all busy,

[00:27:37.400]

busy, busy, and they want to partake and participate.

[00:27:40.280]

There are only so many days in the week, and so we're going to try and find a way

[00:27:43.080]

to have a better balance and give everyone a clean slate from last year.

[00:27:49.560]

I think Zoe says her mic is on.

[00:27:51.720]

Can you try and talk to us, Zoe?

[00:27:58.360]

It looks like the moment of technical issues.

[00:28:00.880]

Maybe if you want to write your question,

[00:28:02.320]

the chat, we can answer that in that way as well.

[00:28:04.440]

It's not a problem at all. Yeah.

[00:28:05.680]

And then there's also the opportunity

[00:28:07.920]

to set up meetups and groups to discuss activities among NEHS chapters.

[00:28:12.080]

Elfi just told us that.

[00:28:13.120]

So in the future, we'll get the opportunity to set up

[00:28:15.360]

meetups and groups to kind of discuss more of these things.

[00:28:18.720]

And if there's a particular webinar

[00:28:20.640]

that you would like for us to host or if there's something that you want to learn

[00:28:23.800]

more about it, please feel free to contact any of us.

[00:28:26.680]

You can find our contact information

[00:28:28.320]

on the website under Chapter Advisory Council.

[00:28:35.440]

What about the pen?

[00:28:36.680]

What is that about?

[00:28:38.560]

I don't see that one on my screen. Do we have a pen?

[00:28:40.840]

Oh, we don't have a pen, do we?

[00:28:45.440]

I don't know, Zoe. I'm not sure about that one.

[00:28:47.520]

Anyone?

[00:28:47.920]

Christopher, Breanne, you know anything about that?

[00:28:50.560]

I'm not sure about the pen. No, I don't know that.

[00:28:53.120]

But I know we're getting to the 30 minutes mark.

[00:28:56.920]

We can go ahead and conclude tonight's webinar, but we'll stay back for a few

[00:29:00.560]

minutes and hopefully we can get your question answered,

[00:29:03.160]

zoe and anyone else who would like to stay

[00:29:04.960]

back, I'm sure we'd be happy to stay back and chat with you.

[00:29:08.000]

But again, thank you for coming tonight.

[00:29:09.680]

We really appreciate it, and we are here to support you.

[00:29:12.080]

And good luck this year with your chapter. Take care.

[00:29:14.720]

Good luck.

[00:29:15.760]

Thank you, guys.

[00:29:32.400]

Maybe just to answer Zoe's question, while she's still here and other people are

[00:29:36.080]

still here, do we get certificates at the induction?

[00:29:38.600]

Yes. Your certificates get mailed out from NEHS

[00:29:41.360]

in Illinois to your school, a packet of certificates, which you can

[00:29:45.960]

hand out to present to students at the induction.

[00:29:48.960]

And if you're asking how many people can arrive per kid for the induction ceremony,

[00:29:53.280]

that is completely up to your school and the policies that they will follow.

[00:29:58.080]

You could have a very small induction ceremony

[00:30:00.280]

just with the students, or you can invite family members, teachers.

[00:30:04.480]

You can have a much bigger celebration.

[00:30:07.000]

That's completely up to you

[00:30:09.200]

as a Chapter Advisor, as a chapter member, and the policies of your school,

[00:30:13.640]

particularly during the continuing COVID pandemic.

[00:30:19.520]

Have either of you ever inducted an honorary member into your chapter?

[00:30:23.640]

I have.

[00:30:24.920]

Every year I have a speaker tea where we

[00:30:28.400]

invite a former NEHS member up or someone in the community who's

[00:30:33.320]

a writer, and then we will present them with an honorary certificate.

[00:30:36.760]

And it's very nice.

[00:30:37.800]

They put it in the mail and I'll just go

[00:30:39.680]

on Amazon and buy a nice frame for it and present it to them.

[00:30:42.880]

And they really like that.

[00:30:44.640]

There's also some merchandise that you can

[00:30:46.400]

buy that I think really kind of snaps up the induction ceremony.

[00:30:49.240]

We have a beautiful banner that's for purchase.

[00:30:52.040]

I believe it's around \$100.

[00:30:54.480]

And it's a beautiful symbol that you can hang on the podium.

[00:30:57.680]

Also we have white carnation are

[00:31:01.160]

the Society's flowers, blue and gold are the colors.

[00:31:04.440]

And so you can always kind of use

[00:31:06.600]

that to help you guide if you want to have some additional decor.

[00:31:10.320]

Canopies and food also goes down really well in the induction ceremony.

[00:31:16.080]

And sometimes it's nice to have a guest speaker who might want to come

[00:31:21.200]

in and give a talk at the induction ceremony.

[00:31:24.720]

It's always a highlight. That's what we did.

[00:31:26.840]

I asked that question because

[00:31:29.120]

I remember last year and we also had a guest speaker, which was awesome,

[00:31:32.000]

and it was really nice because it gave a little bit of a feeling of circumstance,

[00:31:38.680]

a little bit of a clout or something with a guest speaker.

[00:31:41.520]

And I remember I really liked it.

[00:31:46.840]

How do chapters require service hours?

[00:31:49.560]

So what are service hours?

[00:31:51.440]

Do we require them? How many?

[00:31:53.120]

Is that what this question is asking?

[00:31:55.120]

I don't know.

[00:31:56.720]

I don't know if it's not required

[00:31:58.000]

that a chapter has service projects or certain number of service hours.

[00:32:03.640]

I think my chapter just built theirs on the NHS model,

[00:32:07.920]

so we did have that in there, and we had too many hours

[00:32:10.440]

at the beginning, and it was just almost impossible for the type of kid that I have

[00:32:13.960]

in the chapter for many of them to get the hours.

[00:32:17.200]

So we've reduced that to a very small

[00:32:19.280]

amount, and I may even take it away this year.

[00:32:21.200]

The service hours.

[00:32:22.440]

I do not have chapter service hours linked to my membership requirements.

[00:32:26.760]

We do have service opportunities,

[00:32:29.000]

of course, and we encourage everyone to participate.

[00:32:31.720]

But generally speaking, with NEHS, really,

[00:32:34.880]

the requirements are GPA, and that is from NEHS.

[00:32:43.160]

That's something that has to be in the bylaws, but other than anything else

[00:32:45.720]

that you want to add, that's completely up to you.

[00:32:48.160]

And, again, like Dave said, it might work for you one year and then

[00:32:51.040]

you might kind of want to pull back a little bit and add a different component.

[00:32:55.040]

It's something that I've gone through

[00:32:57.520]

that, like Breanne and Dave said, some years students really want to do

[00:33:01.280]

social service projects, some years they want to do a more academic project.

[00:33:05.000]

I think the beauty of NEHS is that it is flexible and you as Chapter Advisor can

[00:33:10.480]

reflect the interests and the needs of your students.

[00:33:13.400]

So some years it's great to do service projects, some years the students don't

[00:33:17.240]

want to and have different interests, which we can all celebrate as well.

[00:33:21.840]

Right.

[00:33:24.360]

And the year itself can be different every year.

[00:33:26.120]

And there may be opportunities that show

[00:33:27.680]

up in your community for a service project and you just go for it.

[00:33:30.600]

And sometimes there isn't. That like you're saying.

[00:33:32.280]

So it's wide open, right? Wide open.

[00:33:34.680]

With regard to service hours, I think that's all we have.

[00:33:45.680]

Well, thank you for attending tonight

[00:33:47.240]

and we look forward to seeing you at Webinars in the future.

[00:33:50.080]

Good night, everyone. Ciao.