

SPENCER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Agenda Item

Item # _____ Meeting Date 12/16/2013

Topic/Title SCHS REQUEST FOR Mu-Alpha Theta Club Fees

Presenter _____

Origin

_____ Topic presented for information only (*no board action required*).

_____ Action requested at this meeting.

X Item is on the consent agenda for approval.

_____ Action requested at future meeting, _____ (date).

_____ Board review required by –

_____ State or federal law or regulation

_____ Board of Education policy

_____ Other _____

Previous Review, Discussion or Action

_____ No previous Board review, discussion or action

_____ Previous review or action

Date _____

Action _____

Background/Summary of Information

SCHS SBDM is requesting the addition of Mu Alpha Theta Club to be sponsored by Madelyn Brown.

This will require Board approval of a one-time \$15 school fee and a one-time \$10 student fee.

Information about Mu Alpha Theta is attached.

Impact on Resources (REQUIRES FINANCE OFFICER'S INITIALS OF REVIEW)

 Finance Officer

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION

Recommend approval of student and school fee.

SCHS Mu Alpha Theta Constitution

Article 1. Purpose

Section 1. The purpose of this organization is to promote scholarship in, and enjoyment and understanding of, mathematics among high school students.

Article 2. Name

Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be the chapter of Mu Alpha Theta.

Article 3. Sponsor

Section 1. The organization shall at all times have a designated sponsor.

Section 2. The national secretary-treasurer must be kept informed of the current sponsor's name, email address, and the school's address.

Article 4. Membership

Section 1. Students are classified as members or associates at high schools and members at two-year colleges.

Section 2. Members are high school students in grades 9 through 12, at the school where their permanent record resides, who have completed the equivalent of two years of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra and geometry, and in addition have completed or are enrolled in a still more advanced course, providing their mathematical work was done with distinction. On the 4-point grading scale, this shall mean at least a 3.0 grade point average. They should also have a 3.5 grade point average in the math classes taken at Spencer County High School. Two-year college students who were members of Mu Alpha Theta in high school are eligible for membership in their college's chapter.

Section 3. Members shall demonstrate ability to work with others and to conduct independent research, and shall possess qualities of industry, initiative, and reliability. No student will be denied membership on account of race, religion, color, creed, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual preference and/or physical disability.

Section 4. Candidates for membership shall have spent at least one semester in high school. However this requirement shall be waived for students who were members in good standing of a Mu Alpha Theta chapter in another school.

Section 5. Selection of members shall be made by the Admissions Committee (See Article 7) composed of the sponsor and the officers of the chapter.

(NOTE: The chapter may also include a section specifying attendance requirements for continued membership in good standing. Certainly it is intended that all members take an active part in the chapter. Because of the difficulties in record keeping, however, the National Office does not drop the names of students once they have been elected to membership.)

Article 5. Meetings

Section 1. The chapter shall meet regularly at a specified time that is agreeable to both the Admissions Committee and the school administration.

Section 2. Meetings are open to all interested persons.

Section 3. At regular meetings, the program shall consist of a mathematical presentation (e.g., talk, film, etc.), mathematical enrichment and recreational topics, as well as conducting any necessary chapter business.

Section 4. In all matters of conduct not specifically addressed in this constitution, the chapter shall be guided by Robert's Rules of Order.

Article 6. Officers

Section 1. The chapter officers shall be the following: president, vice-president, secretary, and the treasurer.

Section 2. Election of officers shall take place during the final regular Spring meeting.

Section 3. The term of office is one school year.

Section 4. An officer may not hold the same office for more than one year.

Article 7. Duties of Officers

Section 1. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the chapter. He or she shall preside at all business sessions, and it shall be the duty of the president to direct the activities of the organization.

Section 2. The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President at times when the President is absent, and shall also serve as Program Chairman

Section 3. The secretary shall keep an accurate record of all proceedings. He or she shall, with the approval of the sponsor, certify the names of new members, forwarding these (together with initiation fees) to the National Office within one month of initiation.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall handle all money belonging to the Chapter and shall maintain an accurate record of financial transactions. (NOTE: There are no national dues other than the original \$10.00 initiation fee. Each chapter is free to assess local dues if desired.)

Section 5. The officers shall serve with the sponsors as the Admissions Committee and Executive Committee, having authority to transact all routine business and to select new members of the chapter.

Article 8. Emblems

Section 1. Each member of this chapter shall be entitled to wear the Mu Alpha Theta insignia (buttons, pins, charms, patches, medallions, tassels, or t-shirts) available from the National Office and honor cords or tassels at graduation. (Price lists and descriptions of items can be found online at our website.)

Article 9. Constitution

Section 1. Concurrence of two-thirds of the members shall be required to accept this constitution.

Section 2. Any amendment to this constitution must be presented by a member in the form of a motion during a business meeting. It must then be placed on the table until the following meeting, at which time it will become effective provided it is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members.

Section 3. The local chapter constitution must not violate any stipulation of the national constitution.

Section 4. By-laws may be adopted to amplify the constitution and to take care of details.

National Mu Alpha Theta Requirements

Procedure for Joining Mu Alpha Theta

1. Confirm that your school meets the School Eligibility Requirements.
2. Select a member of your school's faculty to serve as the sponsor of the chapter.
3. Make sure that your school can meet the Chapter Responsibilities.
4. Attain the Mu Alpha Theta petition from the National Office or by downloading the appropriate Microsoft Word document from below.
 - o Download the high school petition [here](#).
 - o Download the two-year college petition [here](#).
5. Complete the petition and have it approved by your principal or your college administrative officer, typically the college president or the math department chair. A list of mathematics courses offered by your school including textbooks used, author and date and a brief description of the topics covered in each course must be included with the petition. The names of your charter members must also be included, grouped by approximate year of graduation.

Also, let us know how you found out about Mu Alpha Theta.

6. Submit the petition along with a one-time \$15 charter initiation fee and the \$10 one-time membership registration fee for each student joining your chapter. (All students must meet the eligibility requirements for students.) All fees will be returned if the institution is deemed ineligible for membership. Each petitioning institution will be notified within three weeks whether or not a charter has been granted. When a charter is granted, each student will receive a certificate of membership, membership card and a Mu Alpha Theta decal. The school will receive a charter certificate suitable for framing and a *Sponsor's Handbook*.

If preferred, you may email the completed petition form, along with the list of your courses and just mail the front signature page with a check.

7. Email the list of your charter members, grouped by year of graduation, to matheta@ou.edu.

Student Eligibility

The national requirements for individual membership in a local chapter are as follows. These are the minimum requirements; chapters may elect to have stricter standards but not lower ones. Students are encouraged to participate in Mu Alpha Theta club meetings and activities, even if they do not qualify as members.

Membership, High School Chapter: High school students in grades 9 through 12, at the school where their permanent record resides, who have completed the equivalent of two years of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra and geometry, and in addition have completed or are enrolled in a still more advanced course, are eligible for membership providing their mathematical work was done with distinction. On the 4-point grading scale, this shall mean at least a 3.0 grade point average.

Purpose of Mu Alpha Theta

Mu Alpha Theta is the National High School and Two-Year College Mathematics Honor Society with 99,000 student members in June 2013 in more than 2000 schools. We are dedicated to inspiring keen interest in mathematics, developing strong scholarship in the subject, and promoting the enjoyment of mathematics in high school and two-year college students.

Mu Alpha Theta achieves these goals by:

- Providing a method for schools to recognize and encourage those students who enjoy and excel in mathematics.
- Organizing a national convention for students and teachers to participate in math-related events and interact with others from across the country.
- Rewarding outstanding extracurricular achievement by offering special awards to both students and their faculty advisors.
- Providing mathematics competitions to participating members at their own school through the Log 1 Contest, the Rocket City Math League, and the Mathematical Minutes Video Contest.

Chapter Eligibility

Any high school or two-year college, with accreditation from a recognized accrediting agency and offering courses in mathematics, may petition to have a chapter, providing it meets the following minimum requirements:

High School:

- (1) High schools must offer at least two years of algebra and one year of geometry, or their equivalent, and a minimum of one year of more advanced mathematics. These requirements cannot be fulfilled by courses in general mathematics, general business mathematics, or arithmetic.
- (2) The school must employ at least one teacher whose primary teaching field is mathematics and who has completed an undergraduate mathematics major or its equivalent at an accredited college or university. The equivalent of a mathematics major shall be understood to include a minimum of six college mathematics courses at the calculus level or above.
- (3) The principal, or other chief administrative officer of the institution, must approve the petition.
- (4) An initial charter fee, along with the regular initiation fee for each member, shall be paid to the office of the Secretary-Treasurer before a charter is granted. If a check accompanies the petition, it will be held until the institution is granted a charter, at which time it will be cashed. If the charter is denied, the check will be returned to the petitioning school with an explanation of why the charter was denied.
- (5) High school chapters shall be admitted for membership on the approval of the President and the Governor of the appropriate region. Should either deny a petition for membership, the school may appeal the decision to the Governing Council for consideration. A two-thirds vote of the Governing Council shall be required to approve such a chapter for membership.