

# Successful Chapter Model

1. Holds 4-6 well-planned, relatively informal but still structured, quick-moving business meetings per year.
2. Meets at varied times, days, and places convenient for working members.
3. Meets for approximately 1.5 hours in length, excluding meals.
4. Has more refreshment-only meetings than meetings with meals.
5. Plans fellowship time as part of each meeting.
6. Focuses on meeting members' social needs (fellowship/camaraderie).
7. Has open meetings and activities that welcome non-members.
8. Has a wide variety of high-quality, interesting programs and speakers, including programs that highlight community initiatives and those that use members' talents/expertise.
9. Supports a variety on one-time and ongoing projects that actively engage members.
10. Supports projects in the areas of Mentoring/Collaborative Connections; fund-raising and volunteers efforts; scholarships and grants-in-aid; community initiatives, especially for women and children; literacy; the legislative process; and others, including international projects.
11. Communicates with members in multiple ways: newsletter (print, website, or email four or more times a year), phone, email, snailmail, website.
12. Publicizes the Society through projects and activities that receive newspaper coverage as well as school and community recognition.
13. Has specific strategies in place for attracting new members, retaining members, engaging retired and employed members, and developing /nurturing new chapter leaders.
14. Implements formal and traditional initiation and installation ceremonies.
15. Emphasizes the Society's mission, purposes, and history.
16. Offers benefits and services that members cannot get elsewhere, including chapter scholarships, grants, interaction among a diverse group of educators, friendship/camaraderie, and service to the community.

*2010 Special Society Research Project conducted by Board Members Dr. Jensi Souders and Dr. Helen Popovich*