

Selection into the Knights Chapter of the National Honor Society

National Honor Society Selection is an honor bestowed on eligible individuals deemed worthy by the STMA Faculty Council. No students have a right to be in the NHS because they presume to meet certain criteria. All selection decisions are made by the council alone; based, in part, on the evaluations submitted by teachers of academically eligible students. Because the Knights Chapter of the NHS operates as a service organization (as opposed to simply being on an honor roll), an emphasis is placed on students who demonstrate leadership in addition to being students of good character, high academic achievement and who have already demonstrated evidence of service to their school/community.

Selection Process

- This process is consistent with guidelines set out by the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the governing body of the National Honor Society.
- Sophomores and juniors who have the required minimum cumulative GPA of 3.67 at the end of the 2nd trimester will be notified that they are eligible for NHS membership selection and will be invited to complete a Selection Information Form.
- Completed forms do not guarantee selection, they only provide the Faculty Council Selection Committee with the information they may require in order to make their selections.
- Next, each student selects **six teachers** who they wish to complete an evaluation form regarding the student's character and leadership and submits those names. The student does not need to ask permission or otherwise contact the teacher. The advisor will send/receive the evaluation forms directly to/from the teachers.
 - **At least** four evaluators must be teachers the student had during the 1st or 2nd trimester of the current year (none can be current teachers unless they were also teachers of the student earlier this year).
 - **Two** may be teachers from the **previous** school year.
 - One teacher **may** be the student's homeroom advisor
 - Coaches/advisors **may not** do evaluations unless they were also the student's teacher meeting the above requirements.
- All materials must be turned in on time.
- Teacher Evaluations and Selection Information Forms will then be reviewed by the Faculty Council to assist in making their selections.
- Those selected and those not selected will be notified by mail.
- Candidates selected for induction into the Knights Chapter of the NHS must attend the induction ceremony on the pre-determined date in May. **For 2014 the date is May 7th.**

Selection components: Scholarship, Leadership, Character, & Service; the Four Pillars of the NHS

Scholarship: Students must meet the minimum requirement of a 3.67 cumulative GPA as calculated by Guidance Office at the conclusion of the 2nd trimester of the selection year.

Leadership and Character: School and civil records may be accessed to determine whether the student has had school or criminal violations in the year preceding NHS selection consideration. Also, those teachers selected by the student will evaluate the student in the areas of leadership and character.

- In regards to leadership, teachers will be asked to consider (among other characteristics) the extent to which the student exercises positive influence on his/her peers in upholding school ideas and school spirit; demonstrates academic initiative; shows resourcefulness in proposing solutions and in applying principles; exhibits reliability and dependability; and inspires positive behavior in others. Additionally, students will provide, in the selection form, any examples of when they have held offices or positions of responsibility in both the school and community.
- In regards to character, teachers will be asked to consider (among other characteristics) the extent to which the student willingly takes criticism and graciously accepts recommendations; consistently exemplifies qualities of behavior such as cheerfulness, poise, and stability; cooperates by complying with school regulations; regularly shows concern, courtesy and respect for others; and actively helps rid the school of bad influences.
- **Evaluations are kept confidential.** They are not available to the student or to parents after the selection process is completed, and they will not be used for any purpose other than for NHS selection consideration.

Service: Students will indicate, on the Selection Information Form, the school and community activities in which they have been involved **since their freshman year**. Especially important to include are activities in which the student participated singularly (not part of a team) to serve the school or some part of the community (church, person in need, or charity organization). If a service or activity began before the 9th grade year (such as Boy Scouts), the student may add a note to that affect in the optional individual statement (essay); however, the student should not include activities in which participation ended before the freshman year.

Additional Notes

- **Work experience:** a part-time job is **not** required for membership in the NHS.
- **The final selection** of candidates to be inducted into the NHS will be done by majority vote of the Faculty Council of which the advisor is a non-voting member.
- **Not being selected for the NHS has little bearing on a student's chances of being admitted to college. It is simply one of many criteria used by college admissions.**