



## **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY STANDARDS OF LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, AND CHARACTER**

### **LEADERSHIP**

The Leadership criterion is considered highly important for membership selection. A Faculty Council may interpret leadership in terms of the number of offices a student has held in school or community organizations; however, it is important to recognize that leadership also exists outside elected positions including leadership roles within the classroom and effective participation in positions of responsibility in other activities offered on campus. A student exercises leadership when he or she:

- Is resourceful in proposing solutions to problems, applying principles, and making suggestions.
- Demonstrates initiative in promoting school activities.
- Exercises positive influence on peers in upholding school ideals and spirit.
- Contributes ideas that improve the civic life of the school.
- Is able to delegate responsibilities.
- Inspires positive behavior in others.
- Demonstrates academic initiative.
- Successfully holds school offices or positions of responsibility; demonstrates reliability and dependability.
- Is a leader in the classroom, at work, or in other community activities.
- Is dependable in any responsibility accepted.

To meet the Leadership criterion for NHS, a student must identify three (3) leadership roles at school or in the community achieved since the ninth grade and indicate the roles and the name of the adult who supervised each of these activities on the Candidate Form. More than three roles may be listed, but there must be three verifiable listings to be selected to our chapter.

## **SERVICE**

Service is generally defined as those actions undertaken by the candidate which are done with or on behalf of others without expectation of any direct financial or material compensation. The student who serves:

- Volunteers and provides dependable and well-organized assistance, and is willing to make sacrifices to offer assistance.
- Works well with others and is willing to take on difficult or inconspicuous responsibilities.
- Enthusiastically renders any requested service to the school.
- Is willing to represent the class or school in interclass or interscholastic competition.
- Performs committee and staff work without complaint.
- Participates in some activity after school, for example Girl/Boy Scouts, religious groups, volunteer services for the elderly, poor, or disadvantaged.
- Mentors in the community or students at school.
- Shows courtesy and consideration to faculty, staff, and fellow students.

To be selected as a member of our chapter, a candidate must demonstrate on the Candidate Form the completion of a minimum of ten (10) hours of service undertaken at school or in the community since the start of the ninth grade. All service references must include verification by an adult supervisor of the activity.

## **CHARACTER**

National Honor Society is a member of the Character Counts!™ Coalition and supports a multi-faceted definition of character known as the Six Pillars of Character. A person of character demonstrates the following six qualities: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. The student of character:

- Consistently exemplifies positive and desirable qualities of behavior (cheerfulness, friendliness, poise, stability).
- Cooperates by complying with all school policies and regulations and codes of student conduct.
- Accepts criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously.
- Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty, academic integrity, and reliability.
- Regularly exhibits courtesy, concern, and respect for others.
- Complies with instructions and rules and displays personal responsibility.