South Lyon High School

Mary B. Holt Chapter of the National Honor Society

[www.SLHS-NHS.weebly.com](http://www.SLHS-NHS.weebly.com)

The National Honor Society (NHS) is an organization established by the National Association of Secondary School Principals to recognize senior high school students who are outstanding in the areas of academics, character, leadership, and service.

**CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Membership in the National Honor Society is an honor accorded by the High School Faculty to juniors and seniors. Selection is based on the following criteria.

**SCHOLARSHIP** Student maintains a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or better.

**SERVICE** Student shows a willingness to render any requested service to the school or community.

**LEADERSHIP** Student exercises influence on peers in upholding school ideals. He/she is responsible, contributes ideas, and demonstrates personal conviction.

**CHARACTER** The individual exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior. He/she upholds the principles of morality and ethics. He/she demonstrates standards of honesty and reliability.

All faculty members are consulted. They are asked to recommend those scholastically eligible students that they feel are also outstanding in the three other qualities. Final selection is made by a five-member Faculty Council.

**MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

All members **MUST** attend the regular NHS meetings.

All members shall participate in mandatory chapter projects and activities.

All members must maintain the standards by which they were selected.

All members are required to perform at least 30 service hours each year, 20 of which are devoted to sponsored activities.

All members must pay NHS dues.

**South Lyon High School National Honor Society**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Does being a member of the National Honor Society help toward college admission?**

No; numerous college admissions offices (such as U of M, MSU, Notre Dame, Yale, Stanford, etc.) have indicated that being a member of the National Honor Society is considered equivalent to any other club membership. What colleges do look for is **leadership roles** and **volunteer service hours**, which can be done without being a member of the National Honor Society (NHS).

**Who can apply for the National Honor Society?**

Incoming juniors or older who meet the ***scholarship***criteria of having a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least a 3.5. Eligible students will receive a letter inviting them to complete an application packet.

**When do you apply?**

Application packets are available on-line through the group’s website (http://slhs-nhs.weebly.com) and are due back during the first week of school in the Fall. If you believe that you are eligible to join but have not received a letter before school starts, please contact Richelle Martin at martinr@slcs.us or Mary Roman at romanm@slcs.us.

**How do you fulfill the requirements for *leadership*, *service* and *character*?**

***Leadership*** can be demonstrated through active participation in clubs, activities and/or sports, in which you have a leadership position (such as officer, team captain, etc.) or take on a role with leadership-type responsibilities, even if there is not a formal title involved. For instance, you might be responsible for organizing a club project or team event.

***Service*** involves helping your school or community in a non-paid position. After a becoming a member of NHS students are required to complete 15 service hours each school semester. Many community organizations have grown to rely upon NHS students for assistance, which provide great opportunities for service hours.

***Character*** is evidenced by a combination of input from high school staff and the community. Students are required to obtain two recommendations from high school staff and a letter of recommendation from a community member. In addition, every high school staff member is given an opportunity to provide input as to the student’s character.

**Once the application is complete, who decides if a student is accepted?**

There is a Faculty Council consisting of five teachers from various departments which reviews the applications for completeness and accuracy, and identifies students who meet NHS membership criteria. Their decision for admission into the NHS is final.

**Once you are in NHS, what do you have to do?**

Active members must maintain at least a 3.5 GPA (based on semester grades), must participate in required service projects, must actively serve on at least once committee, and accumulate at least 15 community service hours each semester.

**What if your GPA falls below 3.5?**

You will be placed on probation for one semester during which time you remain a member but need to elevate your GPA to meet the minimum requirement during the next semester.

**What does the club do?**

Activities include service projects such as tutoring, child care at PTO meetings, helping at school productions, and assisting other community organizations.