

Welcome Betas!

Dear students and families:

We are excited to invite you to join the National Beta Club chapter at Springfield High School. The National Beta Club recognizes high academic achievement, promotes character and social responsibility, encourages service involvement to school and community, fosters leadership skills, and provides settings for you to develop interpersonal relationship skills.

This PDF replaces the invitations we have used in previous years. Enclosed you will find additional information and the club requirements, including the quarterly service projects. Please review these requirements in depth to maintain an active, “good standing” member status within the club.

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This year, the application process looks different. We are asking that students complete the following by Tuesday, October 1st.

- Print and complete the **Acknowledgement Form** with parent/guardian signature
- Print and have one SHS teacher complete a **Character Reference** form
- Submit **2 hours** of service using the new form
- Submit payment of **\$20** to their grade-level sponsor

Congratulations on your child’s achievement! We look forward to an exciting year filled with activities and experiences that will continue to strengthen and build each student throughout their school years and their lives ahead. For more information, please contact Michael Lamb at michael.lamb@rcstn.net.

Sincerely,

Your BETA Sponsors:

Michael Lamb, room A-05, 11th and 12th grade sponsor

Jenny Wilkerson, room E-77, 10th grade sponsor

Alex Neblett, room D-61, 9th grade sponsor

Hannah Thomas, D-hall office, administrator

Important Dates

Meetings

Meeting attendance is an essential part of gaining information and checking in with sponsors. Attendance is required. Our meetings will take place in the large auditorium on the following dates:

- September 4
- October 16
- November 13
- January 15
- February 12
- March 26
- May 7

Chapter-Wide Projects

Quarterly projects are **required** of all members. Your participation is essential for us to positively impact the communities we aim to serve. Our quarterly projects and their deadlines are:

- Trunk or Treat Books – October 25th
 - Donate a new or like-new book for young readers!
- Letters of Positivity – December 6th
 - Write a letter to an SHS teacher or staff member to express gratitude and appreciation. These should be personal and detailed.
- Food Drive – February 28th
 - Bring 4 nonperishable food items to benefit the United Ministries food bank.
- School Beautification – April 28th – May 3rd
 - Help us celebrate spring and prepare for graduation by cleaning and organizing the school and grounds. Sign-ups to come in April.

Induction

An induction ceremony honoring you will be held on November 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the Springfield High School Auditorium. This is a semi-formal event (dress pants, dress shirt, skirts, etc.). A brief reception with cookies and drinks will follow the ceremony just outside of the theater. RSVPs will be sent in October.

Service Hours

All members should complete 20 service hours. Service hours are an integral part of how we interact with our communities and are essential tasks for all Betas. Be mindful of the following:

1. Service is free labor.
 - a. Example: You mow lawns during the summer. You offer to mow your elderly neighbor's lawn for free.
2. Service benefits someone else.
 - a. Example: You love kids and want to help your family friend by babysitting her toddler this weekend.
3. Service cannot be for a family member.
 - a. Example: Your mom is an elementary school teacher. You offer to help her neighbors prepare their classroom for a fun activity the next day.
4. Any task or activity gets capped at a maximum of 5 hours.
 - a. Example: As an excited member of the junior class, you help with float building every day of homecoming week. Despite having put in 8 hours of work, you only record 5 hours on your Beta log.
5. Service hours cannot be "double dipped" from other clubs or organizations.
 - a. Example: You decide to become a "big" for Big Brother, Big Sister. You attend reading events most weeks and have logged 12 hours of volunteering. You decide to use 5 hours for Beta, 5 for NHS, and 2 for recycling club.

Importantly, these 20 hours are in addition to the 4 Chapter Projects. Even so, some projects provide opportunities for students to earn hours via additional donations, e.g. extra books or canned food items. These extra donations do have a max, and they should not replace you *performing* service.

If you are unsure about a service activity or need ideas for how to get your service hours, review this list or speak with your grade-level sponsor.

Fundraiser: Big Poppa Corn Popcorn

We will be fundraising with local Portland business Big Poppa Corn again this year! These funds help us with costs related to induction night, chapter service projects, and BetaCon.

Preorders will begin August 26th and run through September 10th.

Our chapter goal is for all Betas to sell 5 bags of popcorn. Betas who sell at least 12 bags will get a \$35 credit towards BetaCon costs. Popcorn should be delivered the week of October 3rd.

To participate, Betas should see their grade-level sponsor to get a preorder form. Betas will then collect preorders with payment. Bring final sales and preorder money back to your grade-level sponsor by September 10th.

TN State Beta Convention

Beta members are invited to compete at the TN State Beta Convention (“BetaCon”) in November. Students can pick from several categories of competitive events, including academics and fine arts, to show their strengths and abilities. Because we want students to be as prepared as possible, we’d like to know if they will be attending BetaCon. Please review the information below.

Location: Gaylord Opryland Resort and Conference Center in Nashville, TN

Dates: Thursday, November 21 through Saturday, November 23

Sample Itinerary: <https://sponsors.betacub.org/conv/schedule/sr/TN.pdf>

Transportation: Students will depart SHS by bus on Thursday, November 21. Parents are highly encouraged to pick up students from Opryland on Saturday, November 23.

Competitive Events: <https://wiki.betacub.org/handbook/state/Senior/competitions/>

Note that “online events” means students will take an online test at SHS during the testing window of October 25-November 8. “Onsite only” events require presentations or art displays to occur at BetaCon.

Cost: \$180, which covers bus transportation, registration, hotel, one dinner, and snacks. A nonrefundable deposit of \$60 is due by Friday, October 18th. Additional \$60 payments are due by Fridays, November 1st and 15th. Alternatively, a student can submit the full amount on October 18th.

Beta Member Acknowledgement Form

Student Name: _____ Grade: 9 / 10 / 11 / 12

Application Checklist:

- ☐ Complete the Application Form with parent/guardian signature
- ☐ Have one SHS teacher complete a character reference form
- ☐ Submit 2 hours of service using the new form
- ☐ Submit payment of \$20 to their grade-level sponsor

Membership Acknowledgement

Students and parents/guardians, please initial next to each item to show your understanding and agreement to uphold these club requirements.

Student Initial	Parent Initial	
		I will bring \$20 dues payment at time of submitting this form. Cash or check is accepted. SchoolCashOnline is not an option for Beta dues.
		Join REMIND by either texting @SPTBeta to 81010 or use the link www.remind.com/join/sptbeta
		You will be added to the SHS Beta teams. This is our main platform for communication, and you will check it regularly. Notifications being turned on are recommended.
		I understand that I must complete a total of 20 (twenty) hours. I have reviewed the 5 criteria of these hours.
		I will attend these meetings. Failure to attend may result in probation or expulsion of the club.

I, (parent/guardian name) _____, hereby give my student permission to be in the National Beta Club at Springfield High School for the 2024-2025 school year. My student and I are aware of the expectations list above and in the welcome packet, and we are ready to commit to the National Beta Club for the entire school year of 2024-2025. We are aware that failure to abide by these requirements may result in removal from the Beta Club.

Telephone Number: _____ Parent Email Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

BetaCon:

Are you interested in attending Betacon? YES / NO

If YES, what event will you do? _____

Character Reference

Student Name: _____

Please evaluate this student to the best of your knowledge by circling the number for the appropriate response. Please be honest. If the quality is unknown, please circle N/A.

	Rarely Meets	Sometimes Meets	Meets	Usually Exceeds	Always Exceeds	
Maturity	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Responsibility	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Honesty	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Academic Honesty	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Compassion	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Leadership	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Cooperation	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Participation	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Respect	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Independent Worker	1	2	3	4	5	N/A

1. What do you believe are the student's strengths?
2. What do you believe are the student's weaknesses?

I **would** / **would not** (circle one) recommend this student for the National Beta Club.

Teacher Signature: _____

Beta Service Hour Form

Submit this form, completed and signed, within 2 weeks of completion of the service.

Project: _____ Date of completion: ____/____/20__ # of Hours: _____

What task did *you* specifically do? _____

Contact Information of Supervising Adult

Name: _____ Title: _____ Email and/or Phone: _____

Contact's Signature: _____

Reflection

Who did this benefit? _____

How does this benefit them? _____

Why did you pick this project? What did you learn? _____

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