

Criteria for Selection

Membership in the Pascack Hills/Valley High School Chapter of the National Honor Society is to be based upon scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Membership is an honor bestowed upon a select group of students by the school faculty through the Faculty Council. More specifically the criteria for selection are as follows:

1. Beginning with September 2023 incoming freshmen(Class of 2027), the minimum grade point average for NHS eligibility will be 3.95. Any student with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.95 or better will be considered for membership. This GPA will be based on final marks for ninth, tenth and mid-year eleventh grades and approved high school level summer school programs. The GPA standard is 3.95.
2. Only students enrolled at Pascack Hills/Valley High Schools for a period equivalent to one semester are eligible for membership.
3. All Faculty members* will be surveyed for NHS nominations. These nominations are to be based on a judgment of character and leadership and are to be made only by faculty members who know students from the classroom, support or administrative services and/or co-curricular activities.
4. Incidents of a disciplinary nature will be considered by the Faculty Council if they are documented events of which both the students and the parents were notified at the time they occurred.
5. Consideration will be given only to those students who ACTIVELY participate in school and community activities. Successful candidates for membership must be involved in service or volunteer activities for a minimum of 30 hours. All club sponsors will be surveyed for activity ratings of students.
6. The National Honor Society Faculty Council will make the final selection in the spring of junior year based on the criteria listed above in numbers one through five.
*Faculty includes all part time and full time faculty (this does not include advisors/coaches who are not also employed in a certificated position in the school during the school day.)

Scholarship Criteria

Beginning with September 2023 incoming freshmen (Class of 2027), the minimum grade point average for NHS eligibility will be 3.95. Any student with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.95 or better will be considered for membership. This GPA will be based on final marks for ninth, tenth and mid-year eleventh grades and approved high school level summer school programs. The GPA standard is 3.95.

Service Criteria

Community service refers to service that a student performs for the benefit of his or her local, national or international community. Candidates must have a minimum of 30 hours of documented community service.

School and class related activities, including fundraising do not count as community service. Volunteer work for a company, unpaid internships and family obligations do not count as community service.

Many of our high school clubs and teams offer opportunities that benefit the greater community such as Project Paterson, Interact, Camp Raspberry, Robotics, TAC, Volleyball (Dig Pink) etc. Churches, temples and civic organizations offer service opportunities. Volunteer work with the disabled, poor or needy persons qualify as community service. Community service must be performed during the student's high school years. It is recommended that students keep a log of community service hours and any certificates for documentation.

The student who serves:

- Volunteers and provides dependable and well organized assistance, is gladly available, and is willing to sacrifice to offer assistance
- Works well with others and is willing to take on difficult or inconspicuous responsibilities
- Does committee and staff work without complaint
- Participates in some activity outside of school, for example, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, church groups, volunteer services for the elderly, poor, or disadvantaged
- Mentors persons in the community or students at other schools

Leadership Criteria

The student who exercises leadership:

- Is resourceful in proposing new problems, applying principles, and making suggestions
- Demonstrates initiative in promoting school activities
- Exercises positive influence on peers in upholding school ideals

- Contributes ideas that improve the civic life of the school • Is able to delegate responsibilities
- Exemplifies positive attitudes
- Inspires positive behavior in others
- Demonstrates academic initiative
- Successfully holds school offices or positions of responsibility; conducts business effectively and efficiently; demonstrates reliability and dependability
- Is a leader in the classroom, at work, and in other school or community activities
- Is thoroughly dependable in any responsibility accepted
- Is willing to uphold scholarship and maintain a loyal school attitude.

Character Criteria

A person of character demonstrates the following six qualities: Respect, Responsibility, Trustworthiness, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship. In addition the student of character:

- Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously
- Consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior (cheerfulness, friendliness, poise, stability)
- Upholds principles of morality and ethics
- Cooperates by complying with school regulations concerning property, programs, office, halls, etc.
- Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty and reliability
- * Shows courtesy, concern, and respect of others
- Observes instructions and rules, punctuality, and faithfulness both inside and outside the classroom
- Has powers of concentration and sustained attention as shown by perseverance and application to studies
- Manifests truthfulness in acknowledging obedience to rules, avoiding cheating in written work and showing unwillingness to profit by the mistakes of others
- Actively helps rid the school of bad influences or environment.