

TO: POTENTIAL NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY MEMBERS

Congratulations! Based on your academic grade point average you are invited to apply for membership to the St. Croix Falls Chapter of the National Honor Society. A faculty selection committee will soon be reviewing all tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade students who are academically eligible for membership.

Membership in the National Honor Society is based upon excellence in four areas: scholarship, leadership, service and character. Each category is judged independently.

To be eligible for membership application the students must have at least a sophomore standing, and a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.5

In addition to the academic requirement, there are standards in leadership, service, and character, which are required. Leadership requirements include a demonstration of leadership in school as well as outside of school. Service requirements include involvement in service projects since the start of the high school career. School wide sponsored community service is not applicable. Character requirements include integrity, positive behavior, ethics, cooperation, and reliability in and out of school and classroom maturity.

After students become members of the National Honor Society, they are reviewed periodically by the advisor and must maintain the high standards of the Society. Active members in the National Honor Society are required to maintain a 3.5 GPA or better and live up to the character, leadership, and service ideals of the National Honor Society. NHS members as with other organization memberships must follow the St. Croix Falls Extra Curricular Code also.

Students who are invited to apply to the National Honor Society membership are under no obligation to complete the attached forms. If you choose to apply, please complete the Student Activity Information Forms (SAIF) and return it to the NHS Advisor no later than the **last Friday in February**.

Although you are to be commended for maintaining a high scholastic average, please understand that membership is not guaranteed to anyone. A faculty committee makes the final decision for membership. The NHS Advisor is a non-voting member. It may also be necessary to interview various nominees if questions arise in the selection process. If you have any questions regarding the Society or membership, please contact me, Ms. Finster in the Media Center/Library.

Sincerely,

Ms. Diane Finster
National Honor Society Advisor

REQUIREMENTS FOR NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the National Honor Society is based upon excellence in four areas: scholarship, leadership, service and character. Each category is judged independently.

To be eligible for membership a student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5. If you have met these requirements you may apply for membership. In addition to the academic requirement, there are standards in leadership, service, and character, which are required.

LEADERSHIP

A student must be an **active** member of at least two school organizations, (i.e. sports teams, FFA, FBLA, ...). Membership in at **least one non-athletic** organization is required. The leadership criteria cannot be met by participating only in athletics. Those organizations that you earn a credit in are not considered here.

SERVICE

Requirements include involvement in community service projects since the start of your high school career. Generally speaking, service activities are those that are done for or on behalf of others (not including immediate family members) for which no compensation (monetary, credit or other) has been given. Involvement in projects sponsored by church groups, scouting, 4-H, FFA, etc., **is acceptable** for National Honor Society membership. School-wide sponsored community service (i.e. Spring Service Day) **is not** acceptable, nor is working concession stands for clubs/athletics; your involvement will not count toward the requirements for NHS.

CHARACTER

Character requirements include integrity, positive behavior, cooperation, and ethics.

- *Integrity*: No recorded incidents of cheating or intentional dishonesty.
- *Positive behavior*: No record of unexcused absences or of knowingly violating school regulations. No record of civil offenses within the community.
- *Cooperation*: Willing to assist classmates, faculty members, etc.
- *Ethics*: Wants to do the “right” thing in most situations.

ESSAY

The application requires you to complete a narrative essay of 500 words. The topic and essay form are attached to the Student Activity Information Form.

After becoming a member of the National Honor Society, students are reviewed periodically by the NHS advisor, must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.5 and live up to the character, leadership and service ideals of the National Honor Society. Students involved in activities that run counter to the character requirements will

be reviewed by the faculty selection committee for possible probation/termination of their National Honor Society membership.

ST. CROIX FALLS CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

STUDENT ACTIVITY INFORMATION FORM

Directions: Please complete all sections thoroughly, answer the questions to the best of your ability and follow the instructions completely. Be careful not to duplicate our responses. Do not be modest, brag, brag, brag. The faculty advisory council can use every bit of information to assist them in the selection process. Be careful not to duplicate your responses. Your selection into NHS will be influenced by the completeness of replies, neatness, and legibility. Please try to submit information in each section and **type or print (using ink)**. DO NOT FORGET TO OBTAIN ALL THE PROPER SIGNATURES. **Completion of this form does not guarantee selection.**

I. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City, State & Zip Code: _____
Phone Number: _____
Current Year in School: _____
GPA: _____

II. SCHOLARSHIP

This section has already been completed upon receiving this information form. Your scholarship requirement has been met by achieving a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above. Congratulations!

Athletics example: Sports team captain or co-captain, etc.
 VL=Varsity Letter

Athletics: Completed Season	Yr. 9	Yr. 10	Yr. 11	Yr. 12	V. L. 9	V. L. 10	V. L. 11	V. L. 12	Accomplishments

Section B: Student Leader & Leadership Examples

Many students are leaders in various ways without ever being elected to a leadership position. In this section we want you to describe how you are a leader in your classroom, school, and /or community. Student leaders are resourceful, good problem solvers, idea contributors, dependable, and have a positive attitude about life. Below list a leadership quality that you possess and then give an example of a time when you demonstrated this leadership quality. Use as many of the spaces below that you desire, you do not have to use each space, but the more information you can provide the better.

Leadership Quality	Example that Demonstrates this Quality
<i>Examples: Leader</i>	<i>I often lead classroom discussion in my English class.</i>
<i>Dependable</i>	<i>I always arrive to my job at Dairy Queen on time, and pick up shifts for others.</i>

V. OTHER AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Please list any awards or recognitions, not already mentioned on this form, which you have received during high school. Examples: Student-of-the-Month, ACE Award, Who's Who Among High School Students nomination, local art award, etc.

A. Recognition

Formal acknowledgement of an achievement, i.e. special notice or attention.

	Year	Year	Year	Year	
Recognition	9	10	11	12	Group or Activity

B. Awards

An item that is given to you as an acknowledgement of an achievement, i.e. trophy, certificate (usually a physical item.) Boy Scouts-Life, Eagle, etc., Girl Scouts-Bronze, Silver, Gold Awards.

	Year	Year	Year	Year	
Award	9	10	11	12	Group or Activity

** Please note that the overall neatness, spelling, grammar, appearance, etc. of this form will be a factor in the evaluation of your application.*

VI. NARRATIVE CHARACTER ESSAY

Perhaps the most difficult area to evaluate for selection of members is that of character. To assist the faculty advisory committee in their decision, we are asking you to write a brief essay describing how you display character and how you plan to consciously improve in this area by the time you graduate from the St. Croix Falls High School.

Please attach a one-page, double-spaced, computer generated essay expounding upon this topic. **Spelling, grammar and neatness along with quality of response will be part of the evaluation process. Do not forget to use a spell checker and have someone proof read your paper for mistakes, etc. Limit your response to 500 words.**

Because NHS members should continue with their self-motivated service, members will also be required to complete a **minimum of 20 hours of service** projects each year. The project shall have the following characteristics: fulfill a need within the school or community; have the support of the administration and the faculty; be well planned, organized, and executed. Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in a service project or projects, which reflect his/her particular talents or interests. Examples of service projects include, but are not limited to, teaching Sunday School, assisting an elderly neighbor, volunteering at a nursing home, the elementary school, local food shelf, etc. Service opportunities provided by NHS will count towards your hours.

Please initial that if you are accepted as an NHS member you agree to complete a minimum of 20 hours of service projects each school year. Forms must be turned into your advisor by the last day of April in each school year.

Initial _____

VII. ATTESTMENT AND ATTENDANCE

Attestment (must be completed and signed for consideration.)

If accepted into NHS membership you are expected to participate in all activities including the fund raiser to help cover the costs of service projects, end of the year awards, patches, annual awards breakfast, etc. If you sign up to go on a field trip and then cancel out, you will be expected to reimburse NHS for your individual costs. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE!**

A. I certify that my responses are true and factual.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

B. I have reviewed the applicant’s responses and certify that they are correct, insofar as the records indicate.

Signature of Parent(s): _____ Date: _____

ATTENDANCE RECORD-PERIODS ABSENT

	Excused Absences	Unexcused Absences
Freshman Year		
Sophomore Year		
Junior Year		
Senior Year		

Signature of Attendance Officer: _____