***Purpose***

The National Honor Society is an organization whose purpose is to recognize students who exhibit exemplary scholarship, character, leadership, and service. This organization is sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

***Procedure for Membership***

Membership in the National Honor Society is by invitation of the school faculty. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors who are academically eligible for admission are notified for their eligibility. If interested in membership, they are required to complete and submit data sheets attesting to their involvement in school and community activities. A faculty council consisting of five teachers evaluates the information submitted by students and solicits teacher, advisor, and coach input in order to determine the degree of character, leadership, and service displayed by each eligible student. Students must attend the school at least one full semester prior to being invited to NHS membership and must be taking a full schedule. Candidates receiving a majority vote of the faculty council are invited to become members.

***Recognition***

Membership in the National Honor Society is noted on the diploma of graduates and special recognition is given at graduation.

***Scholarship***

Academic eligibility is defined as the maintenance of a 3.30 cumulative grade point average of completed courses, beginning in grade nine.

***Service***

Service is defined as active and worthwhile participation in school and community activities. Six categories of service are available:

1. Service within the community (charities, religious organizations)
2. Service with the school (teacher aide/office assistance)
3. SGA/clubs/class organizations
4. Art/ drama/music (involvement beyond the classroom)
5. Publications (involvement beyond the classroom)
6. Sports

To qualify in the service category, students must acquire points that are distributed in a minimum of two of the above categories. One of these categories of service must be met within the school setting. These points may be earned as early as grade nine. At each grade level, the requisite number of points is as follows:

Grade 10 - 3 points cumulative

Grade 11- 5 points cumulative

Grade 12 - 7 points cumulative

***Service (continued)***

The earning of service points depends on the degree and quality of involvement. Short-term activities which involve 5-10 hours may earn one-half service point Activities conducted for self-improvement or payment will not be awarded service points.

***Leadership***

Leadership is defined as the outstanding demonstration of resourcefulness, initiative, reliability, and dependability both in the classroom and within the school or community. Students must influence others in a positive manner. In order to qualify in this category, it is not essential that they hold elective office. Those who have not been elected to leadership positions must be identified as leaders by at least four teachers.

***Character***

Character is defined as the maintenance of ethical and moral standards that have been established by society. These included such characteristics as honesty, reliability, courtesy, and respect for others.