



Each spring, the Faculty Council selects high school students who demonstrate outstanding performance in scholarship, leadership, service, and character for membership in the Antilles Chapter of National Honor Society (NHS). Membership in NHS is both an honor and a responsibility. Students selected for membership are expected to continue to demonstrate the qualities of the four criteria by which they were selected.

### **Selection Process**

Students may not apply for membership in NHS; instead, membership is granted to students selected by the Faculty Council, which consists of five voting faculty members appointed annually by the upper school division head. The NHS Chapter Adviser serves as an ex-officio, non-voting, sixth member of the Faculty Council, working with the voting members in selecting or dismissing members. Students who meet the scholarship criterion are invited to complete a survey, activities form, or brag sheet to determine interest in membership, as well as to obtain information regarding service and leadership activities; however, these forms are not applications for membership or a guarantee of selection.

Selection of students for NHS membership is the responsibility of the School through its Faculty Council. The School uses the following procedure, or a modification of it, as it adds some objective criteria that can be used to assist the Faculty Council, understanding that all decisions of the kind involved in the selection process have subjective aspects:

1. Students' academic records are reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
2. Scholastically eligible students are notified by the Chapter Adviser, and they are asked to complete a survey, activity form, or brag sheet for further consideration for selection to the chapter.
3. Information provided by each eligible student is reviewed by the Faculty Council, along with any other verifiable information such as service hours and disciplinary records.
4. Candidates receiving a majority vote of the Faculty Council are invited to become members of the NHS Chapter, and if students accept, then they are inducted into the Antilles School Chapter of National Honor Society.

**Special Notes:** Only those students who have been in the school for the equivalent of one semester may be considered for membership. Even after one semester, it may be necessary to contact a student's former school for further information. Members of National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) do not automatically become members of NHS. Membership is reserved for sophomores, juniors and seniors.

### **Requirements for Membership**

NHS Membership is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is made by the School through its Faculty Council and is based on four criteria: outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

### *Scholarship*

The academic requirement is based on a student's cumulative grade point average. The minimum scholarship requirement for NHS membership set by Antilles School is a cumulative GPA of 3.67 on a 4.0 scale. Students who meet or exceed this standard of excellence are then eligible for consideration on the basis of service, leadership, and character.

### *Leadership*

Leadership is considered important for NHS membership selection. Leadership is not limited to elected positions, but can be extended to effective participation in positions of responsibility. Leadership roles in the school and community may be considered, provided these can be verified. The Faculty Council may consider the descriptions listed below when considering the leadership criterion.

The student who exercises leadership:

- Is resourceful in proposing new problems, applying principles, and making suggestions
- Demonstrates initiative in promoting school activities
- Exercises influence on peers in upholding school ideals and spirit
- Contributes ideas that improve the civic life of the school
- Is able to delegate responsibilities
- Exemplifies positive attitudes
- Inspires or promotes positive behavior in others
- Demonstrates academic initiative
- Successfully holds school offices or positions of responsibility
- Conducts business effectively and efficiently, and without prodding
- Demonstrates reliability and dependability
- Is a leader in the classroom, in school, or community activities
- Is dependable in any responsibility accepted

### *Service*

Service is considered in light of actions undertaken by a student which are done with or on behalf of others without direct material compensation. The Faculty Council may review contributions a candidate has made to school, classmates, and community, as well as the student's attitude toward service. The Faculty Council may consider the following descriptions when considering the service criterion.

The student who exercises service:

- Volunteers and provides dependable and well-organized assistance, and is willing to make sacrifices to offer assistance
- Works well with others and is willing to take on difficult or inconspicuous responsibilities
- Enthusiastically renders any requested service to the school
- Is willing to represent the class or school in interclass and interscholastic competition
- Does committee and staff work without complaint
- Participates in some activity outside of school, for example, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, religious groups, volunteer services to help others
- Mentors in the community
- Shows courtesy by assisting visitors, teachers, and students

### *Character*

While character is difficult to define, the School promotes six qualities as aspects that help to describe character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. In its

deliberations, the Faculty Council should consider the whole child and make thoughtful judgments that are free of speculation, hearsay, and rumor. A student's disciplinary records can be considered with a proper regard for adolescent growth and behavior improvement. Students who have a chronic record of breaking school rules are poor membership risks, but should not be automatically excluded from consideration for membership. The Faculty Council considers the six traits previously noted along with the descriptions listed below when considering the character criterion.

The student who exercises character:

- Consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior
- Cooperates by complying with all school policies and regulations and the code of student conduct
- Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously
- Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty, academic integrity, and reliability
- Exhibits courtesy, concern, and respect for others
- Complies with instructions and rules, punctuality, and displays personal responsibility

### **Role of the Principal**

The upper school division head (or principal) recognizes the importance of NHS, is familiar with the *Handbook* (national) and *Constitution* (local), and is aware of the activities and procedures of the School's Chapter. The division head appoints and collaborates with the School's NHS Chapter Adviser.

The division head appoints the Chapter Adviser and the five-member Faculty Council, working closely with them to develop and follow fair selection and dismissal procedures not expressly provided for in the *Constitution*. The division head is not a member of Faculty Council.

The division head collaborates and communicates with the Chapter Adviser, and reserves the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter. This authority extends to the selection and dismissal of members. The division head is a member of the local appeal process for non-selection or dismissal cases.