



**Guidelines for the organization of the information in support of your candidacy for membership in the *SHS' National Honor Society 17-18.***  
**ALL INFORMATION can be found on the SHS website under *For Students.***

## **APPLICATION DUE: Friday, March 17, 2017**

### **I. Scholarship**

Scholarship is defined as the quality of knowledge and learning shown by a student. It is the standard of high academic achievement. This quality of scholarship is determined by careful scrutiny of the student's permanent record. The *Faculty Committee* will have access to your transcript on file in the guidance office. You are required to make no further documentation in this area.

### **II. Service**

Service is defined as work done or duty performed for another or others. It is an act giving assistance or advantage to another. Such service is rendered in school, in one's community, in one's family. Concrete examples of 25 hours of service must be presented by the applicant; such as:

- a. You are tutoring another student who is weak in an academic subject.
- b. You are a student liaison for a school (district) committee (ie. School Committee, School Improvement, etc.)
- c. You are taking care of a sick or invalid parent or grandparent at home.
- d. Through a paid job, you contribute to the weekly support of your family.
- e. You volunteer at a hospital or nursing home.
- f. As a member of the scouts, you lead weekend trips for younger kids.
- g. You serve as a coach or an assistant for your town's sports teams.
- h. You are a lector or an altar server in your church.

### **III. Leadership**

A leader is a person who directs, commands, or guides a group or activity; he or she is not just a participant or member of a group, but one who helps the group reach a desired goal. Leadership does not necessarily require election or appointment to a position of trust or responsibility. Leadership is also an intangible quality; leadership creates a positive influence and helps to affect a positive climate within an organization. Some concrete examples are:

- a. You are the captain of a sports team.
- b. You are an editor of the newspaper or yearbook.
- c. You are the elected officer of your class or some other activity.
- d. You are an Eagle Scout.
- e. You suggest and help develop new ways of raising funds for your class, club, etc.
- f. You organize an intramural activity.
- g. You are resourceful in proposing new programs, applying principles, and making suggestions.
- h. As a member of a club or organization, the advisor or coordinator is willing to write a letter to the *Faculty Committee* attesting to your positive influence of leadership.

#### **IV. Character**

The student of character:

- a. Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously.
- b. Consistently exemplifies desirable quantities of behavior.
- c. Upholds principles of morality and ethics.
- d. Cooperates by complying with school regulations concerning property and programs.
- e. Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty and reliability.
- f. Shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others.
- g. Observes instructions, rules, punctuality, and faithfulness both inside and outside of the classroom.
- h. Has powers of concentration and sustained attention as shown by perseverance and application to studies.
- i. Manifest truthfulness in acknowledging obedience to rules, avoiding cheating in written work, showing unwillingness to profit by mistakes of others.

Concrete proof of character is difficult to provide; however, people who know the candidate can attest to it. All candidates must submit at least **two letters of character reference**. A member of the faculty or the family should **not** write these letters. Letters from employers, pastors, rabbis, scout leaders, activity directors, coaches, or the like, are acceptable.

**Factors which would be weighed heavily against a student in the area of character, and thus might prevent membership, would be such things as:**

- a. Office detentions or suspensions
- b. Evidence of poor attitude or negative behavior.
- c. More than one teacher giving the student negative comments on his/her report card.
- d. A noticeable lack of enthusiasm on the letters of character reference.

**The purpose of the program of requirements for membership is to promote growth in the four areas of qualification. The serious application of the four criteria of membership will build better students, better citizens of the school, and contribute to greater individual growth.**