

National Honor Society Selection Process

The Saint Vincent DePaul Chapter of the National Honor Society of Peninsula Catholic High School is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization. Membership is open to those students who meet the required standards in four areas of evaluation: scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Standards for selection are established by the national office of NHS and have been revised to meet our local chapter needs. Students are selected to be members by a 5-member Faculty Council appointed by the principal, which bestows this honor upon qualified students on behalf of the faculty of our school each May.

Students in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades may be eligible for membership. A student must have a GPA of 3.25 on a 4.0 scale. Students who meet this criterion are invited to complete a process which provides the Faculty Council with information regarding the candidate's leadership and service. A history of leadership and service experiences and participation in school and community service is also required. Students must have completed a minimum number of service hours performed on their own initiative and not as part of a syllabus requirement for a grade. The minimums for accumulated service hours are: 10th grade (30 hours-earned in Grades 9 and 10); 11th grade (60 hours-earned in grades 9-11); 12th grade (80 hours-earned in grades 9-12). Confirmation by supervisor signature is required and letters of reference are strongly recommended. In addition, candidates are asked to submit an essay in which they characterize their interest in service and in National Honor Society. Only the candidate can explicate and inform the Council as to his or her interest in scholarship, leadership, and service and how their pursuit of these goals has influenced their character.

To evaluate a candidate's character, the Faculty Council uses two forms of input. First, school disciplinary records are reviewed. Second, members of the faculty are solicited for input regarding their professional reflections on a candidate's service activities, and leadership. These forms, the Student Activity Information Forms, and essay are carefully reviewed by the Faculty Council to determine membership. A majority vote of the Council is necessary for selection. Candidates are notified regarding selection or non selection according to a predetermined schedule.

*Eligible seniors will be contacted in the Fall to allow potential selectees the opportunity to actively participate with the year long service projects. Their membership will be acknowledged at the Spring induction.

Eligible students in 10th grade and 11th grade will be contacted at the beginning of Term II.