Groton-Dunstable Regional High School

Chapter of the National Honor Society

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1. Description:

The National Association of Secondary School Principals sponsors the National Honor Society. The National Honor Society chapter of the Groton Dunstable Regional High School is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization. Its purpose is fourfold: to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character. Membership in the National Honor Society is both an honor and a privilege that carries responsibility.

2. Eligibility and Selection Procedure:

Students are selected for membership on the four criteria of: Scholarship, Leadership, Character, & Service.

Eligibility to be considered for membership for the GDRHS NHS is open to students in the eleventh and twelfth grades. Students who have a cumulative weighted unaveraged GPA of ninety (90.0%) or better are invited to complete and submit the candidate information forms for consideration for membership by the NHS Faculty Council at the beginning of the school year. This will increase to ninety three (93.0%) on July 1,2027. Selection is based on the GPA as of the end of the second semester of the previous academic year. Students are selected for membership based on the four criteria above by majority vote of a five member faculty council, which bestows this honor upon qualified students on behalf of the faculty of our school each fall.

The following information provides some clarification of the four pillars and requirements for each pillar.

Scholarship

Members are expected to maintain a high level of scholarship. Members must maintain a cumulative weighted unrounded GPA of 90.0% or better. Students who are invited to complete forms for consideration for membership of the GDRHS NHS have already met this requirement and do not need to submit anything further to demonstrate this pillar.

Leadership:

You have developed qualities of 'Leadership' in various roles you have filled in school and community activities. For the NHS, a leader is in charge of making a project (large or small) happen, in other words the project would not have been done if you had not taken the initiative and followed through to ensure it happened. Paid positions of authority at a job may be included as an example of leadership. Students should have at **least two examples of leadership roles** in which they had significant responsibility and authority. There are two required items to demonstrate leadership:

- Leadership Letter of Recommendation
- Leadership Experience List

Service: (Community or Other Volunteer)

One of the requirements of the GDRHS NHS to sustain membership is nine (9) hours of service commitment each term, including the summer. Two of which must be used to help the school or school community. This totals 45 hours per year. The emphasis is also on the quality of the service. Long term commitment to one organization or project is an indicator of quality of service. Generally speaking, service activities are those done for or on behalf of others (not including family members) for which no compensation (monetary or other) has been given. Students being considered for NHS are expected to have participated in service activities throughout each of their high school years. Students should have a minimum of 45 hours of community service within the last two years for consideration for membership in the fall of junior or senior year. Service hours reported on a candidate's Service Experience Form should not be ones that are required for another extracurricular activity (i.e.service hours completed for a service learning class, selling tickets/fundraising/setting up an event for a club or class which is a requirement of your job as an officer or member of that club.) There are two requirements to demonstrate your service.

- Service Letter of Recommendation
- Service Experience List

Character:

The final 'pillar' of NHS is 'Character'. Character is comprised of personal values, scholastic integrity, and sportsmanship in athletic endeavors. The GDRHS Student Handbook references some of the core values we strive for all our students to achieve. In particular you should review the sections regarding Core Values and Code of Conduct (p. 6) and Academic Honesty (p.17). A member of the NHS would aspire to not only meet these ideals, but to surpass

them when needed. We have selected Integrity as one of our core values here at GDRHS. There will be one requirement to demonstrate character.

- Essay on Character

All Candidate Forms and letters of recommendation 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 by late October.

Following notification, a formal induction ceremony is held to recognize all the newly selected members. Once inducted, new members are required to maintain the same level of performance (or better) in all four criteria that led to their selection.

Students may be placed on probation or dismissed according to the guidelines as stated in the Code of Conduct and the GDRHS NHS Constitution. The NHSFC will meet to discuss and take action on individual cases. Please note: Eligibility requirements and all documents are available on the guidance website or from the NHS advisor.

3. Member Obligations:

- Membership in the local chapter is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by a faculty council and is based on outstanding scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities at the same level of performance or (better).
- Service hours are hours given by a National Honor Society member to an organization or person in a duty and not for a fee. All members of the National Honor Society must complete a minimum of nine service hours a quarter. Two of these hours each term must be used to help the school or school community. Additionally nine service hours must be completed between the last day of one school year and the first day of the next school year. Generally speaking, service activities are those done for or on behalf of others (not including family members) for which no compensation (monetary or other) has been given. Service hours should not be ones that are required for another extracurricular activity (i.e.service hours completed for a service learning class, selling tickets/fundraising/setting up an event for a club or class which is a requirement of your job as an officer or member of that club.)
- All members are expected to attend meetings called by the officers and/or the chapter adviser.
- All members are expected to attend and assist in chapter service projects.
- Annual dues for this chapter shall be $20 per member. Dues will be payable to the chapter within 30 days of induction.