

# Cupeyville School National Honor Society

## Introduction \_\_\_\_\_

The National Honor Society (**NHS**) is an organization from the United States that was established to recognize outstanding High School students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of **scholarship, leadership, service, and character**. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1921.

Today, it is estimated that more than one million students participate in activities of the **NHS**.

**NHS** chapters are found in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, many U.S. territories, and Canada. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments, but also challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and providing community service.

## History of the Organization \_\_\_\_\_

In 1921, the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) officially established the National Honor Society.

Equipped with a constitution, an emblem and motto, and a group of dedicated principals as coordinators, the **NHS** organization quickly developed into one of the country's leading educational groups.

Four main purposes outlined in the **NHS** constitution have guided chapters from the beginning: "To create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools. "These purposes also translate into the criteria used for membership selection in each local chapter. The official motto of **NHS** is, "Light is the Symbol of Truth." Both the **NJHS** and **NHS** are sponsored and supervised by NASSP, which appoints a National Council, the controlling body of NHS.

## Selection Criteria \_\_\_\_\_

The **NHS/NJHS** National Council establishes the national standards for all **NHS** chapters. Local chapters create their own bylaws, which are to be consistent with and comply with the **NHS** National Constitution.

At **Cupeyville School**, students in grades 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> are eligible for consideration for membership in **NHS** based upon a student's outstanding performance in the areas for scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

These four criteria for selection form the foundation upon which the organization and its activities are built.

**Scholarship:** Students who have a cumulative grade point average of **95%, A, or higher**, meet the scholarship requirement for membership. These students are then eligible for consideration on the basis of service, leadership, and character.

**Service:** This quality is defined through the voluntary contributions made by a student to the school or community, done without compensation and with a positive, courteous, and enthusiastic spirit.

**Leadership:** Student leaders are those who are resourceful, good problem solvers, promoters of school activities, idea contributors, dependable, and persons who exemplify positive attitudes about life. Leadership experiences can be drawn from school or community activity while working with or for others.

**Character:** The students of good character upholds principles of morality and ethics, is cooperative, demonstrates high standards of honesty and reliability, shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others, and generally maintains a good and clean lifestyle.

Specific standards for these four criteria may vary from one school to the next. Such variations are acceptable as long as they do not fall below the standards set by the National Council of the **NHS**.

### Membership in NHS \_\_\_\_\_

Once selected by our school's faculty council, a student is awarded membership in our school's chapter at a special induction ceremony. With induction, each member assumes certain obligations. The chapter must conduct a service project for the school or community, and oversee the development of individual service projects chosen by each member. Members are required to involve themselves with the school to reach the chapter's goals established to encourage scholarship, promote leadership and service, and build citizenship and character. In addition, meetings will be held to conduct chapter business and communicate with members. All active members are expected to support these and other chapter activities.

### NHS of Cupeyville School \_\_\_\_\_

During the past six years we have been doing community work at the Jesús Silva Public School. Members have been tutoring elementary students, painting areas for children to play, helping teachers grade papers and they renewed the landscape area of the school. In addition they perform special arts and crafts activities with the children during Christmas and St. Valentine's Day.

In school they do peer tutoring for our students, coach math Olympics and they serve as ushers during different school activities