



Rufus King High School

National Honor Society: Information

Invitation and Induction Process



Induction Ceremony: Thursday 8 March 2012 @ 6:30pm

What is the National Honor Society?

The National Honor Society was created in 1921 as a national organization to recognize and encourage academic achievement while also developing other characteristics essential to citizens in a democracy. These ideals of scholarship, character, service, and leadership remain as relevant today as they were in 1921. NHS membership is often regarded as a valid indicator of student success in life and particularly in post-secondary studies.

Who is invited?

Minimum requirement to receive an invitation packet (based on semester I: 2011-12 cumulative GPA)

- Sophomores: 3.3 cumulative GPA (Semester I)
- Juniors: 3.3 cumulative GPA (Semester I)
- Seniors: 3.2 cumulative GPA (Semester I)

- Students are urged to begin performing community service activities early in the school year in preparation for completion of their invitation to the chapter

What is the Invitation Process?

- Invitations mailed to homes of qualifying students during early - January 2012
- Invitation packet includes questions on future goals, past/present extracurricular activities, community service, and past/present leadership positions.
- Invitee accurately completes and returns invitation packet, in person, to NHS advisor, Mr. Wagner, in Rm.304, and receives 5 recommendation forms to be distributed to **present Rufus King High School teachers** (no student teachers) from different departments; teachers return these directly to NHS advisor by due date.
- Late packets or recommendation forms will not be accepted.
- Invitee must strictly adhere to all directions and due dates
- Applications are then reviewed by the (7) member Rufus King High School Faculty Council.

What is the Function/Selection Process of the Faculty Council?

Faculty Council is the group charged with evaluating NHS completed invitation packets and maintaining the integrity of the Rufus King chapter of the NHS organization.

- Seven faculty members are appointed to the Faculty Council annually by the school principal; neither the principal nor the NHS advisor, are members of the Faculty Council.
- The Council is charged to follow NHS guidelines in selecting new members based on their review and evaluation of completed invitation packets and teacher recommendation forms; they are also charged with disciplining and dismissing NHS members when necessary, following NHS guidelines.
- Student members are selected based on **Scholarship**, Community **Service**, **Leadership**, and **Character** as reflected in completed invitation packets.
- Rufus King Administration provides oversight of the process, supporting faculty council selection decisions and signing each non-selected invitation packet to verify its accuracy.
- **This is a rigorous process!** Last year only 44% of sent invitations were completed and returned for consideration. Of those returned, 55% were selected for the Rufus King High School Chapter of the National Honor Society.

- Decisions of the Faculty Council are final and not subject to review, per NHS guidelines.

Responsibilities of Selected Students:

- All applicants notified mid-March regarding their invitation status
- New inductees pay the \$35 induction fee (NHS dues \$10, \$25 NHS polo shirt)
- Thereafter annual NHS fees are \$20 (\$10 NHS dues, \$10 activity fee)
- Must uphold **Scholarship, Service, Character, and Leadership** principles of the Rufus King High School chapter of the National Honor Society
- Maintain high grade point average, complete 60 hours of community service during 10 months prior to the following year’s induction, pay the NHS fees on time, maintain a positive attitude, exhibit leadership and have good attendance to all meetings and NHS activities

Students not selected to join the Rufus King NHS chapter:

- Sophomores and juniors not currently selected will be re-invited the following year based on meeting the required minimum cumulative GPA.
- Chapters are not legally or constitutionally obligated to share with parents, students, teachers, or community member’s information concerning specific students not selected for membership in the society as stated in the National Honor Society Handbook (p.34).

Induction Ceremony: Thursday 8 March 2012 - in the Rufus King High School Auditorium

- This is a semi-formal event, with inductees arriving by 5:30 p.m. and parents seated by 6:15 p.m.
- All new inductees will receive a membership card, pin, and NHS patch; seniors will receive their NHS graduation gold honor cord.
- Rehearsal held during 3rd period on the day of induction
- Attendance for all new inductees is **mandatory** per **NHS guidelines**
- Participants must follow the directions given for the dress code and their assignments for that day.

The National Honor Society is a prestigious organization within the school, and being a member of the Rufus King High School chapter of the National Honor Society is a great honor.

NHS Officer Corps: (2011-12)		NHS Faculty Council: (year appointed)	
President:	Molly Horwitz	Ms. S. Beirold	(1999)
Senior Vice President:	Angellic Ross	Ms. B. Best	(2004)
Junior Vice President:	Zhenrui Liao	Ms. K. O’Keefe-Boettcher	(2004)
Secretary:	Sojourner White	Mr. B. Fink	(2005)
Senior Information Czar:	Raynetta Pierce	Mr. D. Long	(2005)
Junior Information Czar:	Yesenia Villanueva	Ms. J. Aleem	(2009)
		Ms. D. Johnson-Horton	(2009)