

HIGHLANDS RANCH HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY 2009-2010 CONTRACT

The National Honor Society (NHS) was founded in 1921 to promote and recognize scholarship and to develop the ideals of character, service, and leadership. Membership is both an honor and a commitment. The regulations and procedures outlined in this contract are meant to guide students in the development of desirable personal qualities and to ensure that members fulfill their obligations so that the society will maintain its reputation for excellence.

Scholarship

Scholarship is a commitment to learning and members of the Society are expected to continue their quest for knowledge.

- I. A minimal cumulative grade point average of 3.75 is required for membership and must be maintained.
- II. Should a members' GPA drop below 3.75 a letter of warning will be issued indicating that the student has a period of 6 weeks (1 progress grade) in which to restore the cumulative 3.75 GPA. Should the member fail to improve, a letter of impending dismissal will be sent. At this time the student has the right to request a hearing and apply for probation. (See Probation) If a hearing is not requested, dismissal will be automatic. (See Dismissal)

Leadership

A leader exerts a wholesome influence in the school and takes initiative in activities. Leadership is often achieved by example and all members of NHS are expected to exert a positive influence at all times.

- I. Monthly meeting will be held the first Wednesday of each month in room 2305. Members are expected to **attend all meetings promptly** and are responsible for obtaining all information if a meeting is missed. **If a meeting is missed, the member must personally contact the NHS Advisor indicating the reason for the absence.** Failure to attend all meetings on time, failure to follow the absence policy or an unexcused absence will result in probation. (See Probation)
- II. **Participation in the induction ceremony** is mandatory for all members unless prior approval has been received from the sponsor. Acceptable excuses include conflicting school or community activities (competition or performances only), a family emergency, or illness.

- III. Members are expected to **demonstrate a leadership role** by the end of the third (3rd) quarter of his/her senior year. This role can be a committee, chair, team captain, club officer, student senate representative, church activity leader, scout leadership responsibility, etc. This role must be documented on the appropriate form by the end of the third (3rd) quarter of the member's senior year.
- IV. **Members must pay \$15.00 dues** which will be billed by the school. Failure to meet this obligation will result in probation. (See Probation)

Service

Service is the willingness to work for others and an important component in NHS membership. Members are expected to participate in two (2) service projects per year.

- I. **All members must participate in the annual holiday project.**
- II. The second (2nd) project may be with another approved school or community activity or another NHS project. An activity outside NHS will require prior approval from the NHS Sponsor and a letter certifying participation from the sponsoring agency.
- IV. **Sign up for tutoring** in at least one subject area and perform tutoring services for students when contacted by teachers, parents, and/or students. Sign up should be complete by September 4th 2009.
- III. Failure to comply with these requirements by the end of the third (3rd) quarter of each school year will result in probation. (See Probation)

Character

Character is the force that guides a student through life. The Society values the character traits of reliability, sincerity, self-control, honesty, and integrity and expects members to demonstrate these qualities at all times.

- I. Cheating is in flagrant violation of NHS standards and will result in immediate dismissal from the Society. Plagiarism, falsifying information and giving or taking information on tests and assignments are all forms of cheating.
- II. Violation of school rules or community laws are also unacceptable character traits for all NHS members and may result in dismissal.

- III. Failure to comply with these character traits will result in probation and/or dismissal.

Probation and Dismissal

- I. Probation
 - A. A letter of impending dismissal will be sent.
 - B. A student has a right to a hearing.
 - C. Upon approval, the member may design a plan of action to remedy the contract violation.
 - D. A time limit of one (1) quarter will be given to achieve compliance.
 - E. If compliance is not achieved in one (1) quarter, dismissal is automatic.
 - F. Seniors on probation at the end of the third (3rd) quarter will not participate in the NHS portion of Honors Convocation and will not receive the NHS cord for graduation.

- II. Dismissal
 - A. A letter will be sent.
 - B. The student will be required to return his/her membership card, pin and certificate.
 - C. The student will be removed from the local and national roles.
 - D. Once dismissed, a student can never belong to NHS in any school again.

We have read and understand the obligations and requirements for maintaining membership in the Highlands Ranch High School National Honor Society.

(Electronic Signature)
Student Signature

(Electronic Signature)
Parent Signature

THIS SIGNED CONTRACT SHOULD BE ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH. YOU WILL BE INVOICED BY HRHS FOR THE \$15.00 MEMBERSHIP DUES