Winston Churchill High School
National Honor Society

APPLICANT MEETING
What is the National Honor Society?

The National Honor Society (NHS) is the nation's premier organization 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.

Source: National Honor Society Website
The four “pillars” of NHS

Scholarship
Leadership
Service
Character
Self Advocacy

self-advocacy

noun

the action of representing oneself or one's views or interests
New Member selection

The NHS Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) makes all selections.

Decision made using:
• Student application
• Input regarding character from WC faculty
The application

It's your **voice** in the selection process.

- Make it look professional – type it
- Make sure it is complete
- Give yourself time
- Make sure to get the required signatures
- Add supporting documents as you see fit

The entire application is available on the website. You can begin completing it at anytime over the summer if you want to get a head start!
Part 1: Cover Sheet and Acknowledgement

Online Form

Winston Churchill Online Application Form Spring 2018

All applicants must complete this form as part of their application.
Please fill it out appropriately. The information submitted here is used to generate member certificates.

* Required

Student ID *
Enter a six-digit student identification number.

Your answer

Last Name *

Your answer

First Name *

Your answer

Cover Letter

National Honor Society
Winston Churchill High School
New Member Application

Applicant Student ID: 123456
Applicant Name: Reinhardt, Zara
Nickname:
Class: Junior
Email address: zara@school.net
Parent Contact Information:
Name: Brad, Zara
Email: (Parent Email)

Decision Acknowledgement:
The application received is to apply the National Honor Society based solely on your academic performance to date. Due to unforeseen circumstances, there is no assurance of selection. It is imperative that you consider the selection criteria.

By completing and submitting your application, you acknowledge that you are agreeing to the National Honor Society selection process as outlined in the Constitution and By Laws. The selection process includes an evaluation of your applications and supporting documents to ensure that the criteria and procedures are followed. Each applicant is evaluated using the four pillars of the NHS—character, service, leadership, and scholarship.

All activities and leadership positions are supervised and monitored by the appropriate faculty members. Your application must then be submitted to the National Honor Society for consideration. If your application is selected, you will receive a notification from the school within the next 30 days. You are responsible for completing the form and remaining within the deadline of 30 days.

Your parent must sign this application to indicate that you agree to be evaluated and that you agree to accept the decision of the Faculty Advisory Council in determining membership selection.
Part 2: Cover letter

**Cover Letter**

In no more than 250 words, tell the Faculty Advisory Committee why you should be selected for Winston Churchill’s National Honor Society. Highlight your accomplishments – academic, curricular, service, and leadership. Do not merely rehash the information in your application. Rather, tell the committee what makes you unique; what makes you stand out.

Do not include your name or other identifying information in your letter to the extent possible.

**Why should you be selected as a new member in NHS?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do...</th>
<th>Don’t...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highlight your most important accomplishments and expand on them</td>
<td>List everything you have done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explain your strengths</td>
<td>Brag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Show you meet the qualifications of character, leadership, and service</td>
<td>Worry about scholarship – you already meet that requirement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Example Cover Letters will be available on the NHS website by summer.*
Part 3: Activities Tables

ALL entries must be accompanied by a signature verification from an ADULT sponsor or documentation proving participation.

Signature verifications must include:

1. Printed name
2. Email or telephone number of verifier
3. Signature of verifier
   * Parent signatures are not substitutes for the signature of a sponsor.

Accepted documentation*

- Certificate of participation
- Letter
- Email

*Should include your name, date, and hours.
Part 3: Co-Curricular Activities

These are activities that you participate in at Churchill. They include clubs, sports, band, and UIL activities.

Hours Invested – do not exaggerate. It is okay to estimate how many hours you put in to an activity but if the number is really high consider explaining it as part of the description section. There is no need to explain the time in marching band or a sport – the FAC is aware of the hour requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name: [type your name here]</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extracurricular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracurricular activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>are school sponsored</td>
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<tr>
<td>sports, clubs,</td>
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<tr>
<td>organizations, and events</td>
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<tr>
<td>you participate in at</td>
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<tr>
<td>Churchill. All activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>must include the signature,</td>
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<td>printed name and contact</td>
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<td>information (telephone</td>
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<td>number or email address)</td>
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<td>of the sponsor, coach,</td>
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<tr>
<td>etc. Place an X in the</td>
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<tr>
<td>column for each grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>level you participated in</td>
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<td>the activity. When</td>
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<td>necessary, describe the</td>
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<td>activity. For example, if</td>
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<td>you are involved in our</td>
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<td>Theatre Arts programs,</td>
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<td>describe your level of</td>
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<td>involvement to help offer</td>
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<td>a better picture of your</td>
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<td>participation in it. Only</td>
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<tr>
<td>list and describe activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>you are involved in before</td>
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<tr>
<td>or after school, get</td>
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<tr>
<td>classes. Add additional</td>
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<td>rows as necessary by</td>
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<tr>
<td>hitting the TAB key from</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the last row.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>9th</th>
<th>10th</th>
<th>11th</th>
<th>Verification Information (Must include signature, printed name, and contact information for the activity sponsor)</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>
Part 3: Community Service

The is where you tell the FAC about all of the volunteering you do. Applicants who have not shown a history of service often do not get accepted. If you don’t have it, go get it this summer! NHS is a service organization so the more the better.

Applicants should have at least 20 hours of volunteer time each year. Make sure to clearly explain the activity – often times applicants undersell their service.

Not all service hours are equal! Helping Mom out at work is not the same as digging ditches in a developing nation. However, it’s not a competition with other students so it’s okay if you haven’t dug a ditch lately.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Organization Name</th>
<th>Briefly describe the community service</th>
<th>Hours invested</th>
<th>Sponsor (Please print your name and sign)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Animal Rescue League</td>
<td>The ABC takes in stray dogs and cats and helps them find new families. I spent time washing, feeding and exercising the animals.</td>
<td>50 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Community Service Page 1 of 1
Part 3: Leadership

This is the most difficult portion of the application process for many applicants.

Leadership can come in many forms – officer positions in a club or organization; a captain of a team; organizing an event; managing a group; taking charge of an opportunity to make it better.

Be thorough in your descriptions.

Don’t panic if you lack leadership but do everything you can to find opportunities before your application is due.
Part 3: Other activities

On a club soccer team? Have a job? Make pottery and sell it? Have something else that you do outside of school or doesn’t have a home on the other sections of the application that you want the FAC to consider? This is your place.
The application, important dates, and other information about our Chapter can be found on our website.

Access the website by going to the Organizations page on Churchill’s website or by going to Mr. Reinhard’s teacher page.

www.winstonchurchillnhs.weebly.com
Important deadlines

Applications are due no later 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27.

Turn in at A103, C203, or C204.

Must be complete – additional information, extra documentation, etc. will not be accepted after that date.

There are no acceptable excuses that will allow applications to be submitted after that date/time.
Important dates

Application Due Date:  **February 27, 4:30 pm (Tuesday)**
Decision Announcements:  **March 23 (Friday)**
Mandatory Orientation Meetings:  **April 2-5**
Induction Rehearsal:  **April 16 after school**
Induction Ceremony:  **April 17, 7 pm**
Membership expectations

• Attend all monthly membership meetings
• Maintain a 90 or greater GPA
• Earn a minimum of 10 service hours per semester*
• Participate in at least one NHS Outreach Project per school year

* Beginning next school year. Hours earned over the summer (after June 8) can be applied to your Fall requirements.
Questions & Answers

www.winstonchurchillnhs.weebly.com

Mrs. Morrow – C203       Mrs. Ramsey – C204       Mr. Reinhard – A103