

Changes to Senior National Honor Society membership requirements as of 11/30/11

Upon thoughtful consideration of the current membership requirements to the Kendall Sr. High School National Honor Society (Sr. NHS), the advisors, (Mirjam Bauer and Gretchen Rosales) would like to make the following changes to the current standards:

1. **Establish a written requirement of activities. These activities would be a mandatory requirement to maintain annual membership. The mandatory activities include:**
 - Participation in each and every Sr. NHS activity in some capacity. This level of participation may vary according to each activity. For example, a student may participate in the Blood Drive through various means: working at the canteen, signing up students during a lunch period, or donating blood. This act of meaningful participation will be recorded by the advisors at each event and a record will be maintained. Each student will be allowed ONE exclusion from mandatory activities; however, the member must submit a written letter to the advisors at least one week in advance of the event with the reason for absence or inability to participate. This will remain in the member's file. Required activities include: the induction ceremony, two annual blood drives, the annual service drive (usually held in December) and the Grace Lang/Amber Liese memorial walk. Other mandatory service events will be added throughout the year. **In addition,**
 - Students are required to participate in five hours of outside community service. This requirement is defined as assisting a community organization outside of school OR participating in a non-NHS sponsored activity. Some possible suggestions are: volunteering at the Elementary School roller skating parties, working at a church's pancake breakfast, peer mentoring/tutoring, or the like. It is to be noted that SERVICE is one of the key qualities of Sr. NHS and likewise, it is important for the members to volunteer their time to the school and community in a meaningful and selfless manner. Each student is responsible for submitting a completed volunteer activity sheet, which can be found on the NHS webpage on the Kendall website. The deadline for submission of this requirement is June 1st.

2. Amending the current Selection Process by:

- Increasing the current minimum grade percentage from 87% to 90%. In doing such, this raises the academic standard by which members can be chosen. Each potential member will be asked to write an essay as a part of the selection process, in which they describe a service activity through the community or school that has had the most meaningful impact on his or her life. The essay will be at least 500 words and word processed. All application paperwork must be submitted by the announced deadline. Any late applications will not be considered.
- No students will be considered who have had in-school or out-of-school suspension during the school year.

3. If a student fails to maintain active membership,

- A warning letter will be given to the student to make him/her aware of the situation. They will be given a specific time period to remedy inactivity.
- If the student does not remedy inactive membership within the timeframe indicated, their membership will be revoked.
- Any senior not completing the volunteer requirements will not be allowed to wear the NHS stole at graduation.

4. Incidents which will result in immediate removal from Sr. National Honor Society:

- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Any infraction of the *Kendall Jr. Sr. High School Extracurricular Expectation Policy* (please refer to page 30 of the Kendall Jr. Sr. High School Handbook).
- Any incident inside of school or outside of school resulting in personal injury or violence will result in immediate removal or denial of membership.

These rules will be adhered to in compliance with the National Sr. National Honor Society Organization. The official Constitution can be found at:

<http://www.nhs.us/ConstitutionsandGovernance.aspx>