Massaponax High School
National Honor Society

As the recipient of a letter of eligibility for the National Honor Society, you have met the academic requirement for membership—a 3.5 cumulative average on the 4.5 scale. However, the National Honor Society recognizes outstanding service, leadership, and character as well as scholarship. The NHS Selection Committee needs for you to provide the information concerning your activities at school and in the community. The information you provide will support your candidacy for membership. Don’t be modest when completing your Student Candidate Form. The Selection Committee recommends that you familiarize yourself with the information on this sheet before completing the form. Questions should be directed to Mrs. Decker or Mrs. Lamberton.

Service

National Honor Society candidates should demonstrate a history and lifestyle of community service. Your service activities should represent activities that you have participated in throughout your high school experience, not 2-3 service projects completed in the last few months. Many of you have been keeping a service log for documentation that includes verification signatures for the Graduation Community Service Seal. You must include a copy of a service log with your NHS Candidate Form.

The following is a list of activities that students often participate in. These are only examples, there are many other worthy service projects. You are encouraged to include any and all service activities.

- Any “athons” (walk-a-thon, bike-a-thon)
- Nursing home visits
- Church service projects and other activities
- Visits to the homeless shelter
- Volunteer work at the public library
- Volunteer work at the hospital
- Neighborhood clean-ups
- Boy and Girl Scout service projects
- Peer tutoring or mentoring
- Services at elementary schools
- Coaching a “children’s” Parks and Recreation sports team. This does not include being a player/coach.
- Participating in Bible School as a youth helper
- Teaching Sunday School as a youth teacher or helper. The selection committee considers this a service project, not leadership.

The NHS selection committee feels that the following are club activities and not service projects:

- Helping with homecoming activities
- Decorating the “class” window
- Classroom activities during school or outside of class
- Fundraising for sports teams or clubs
- Student aides unless student goes beyond providing a service outside the school day
- Freshmen Day Mentor
- Special Games Volunteer

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Leadership

National Honor Society candidates must have been an active member of a minimum of three different organizations during their high school years. These may be school or community organizations. Work-related leadership positions are not considered. The leadership criterion is considered highly important for membership selection. The Selection Committee recognizes that some leadership situations require more time than others, and has therefore divided positions of leadership into major and minor positions. In general, a candidate should have served in one major or two minor leadership positions to meet the requirement. Having been recently elected to a position, but not yet served does not meet the requirement. Your performance in leadership positions will also be considered. Generally, leadership positions are held in school sponsored activities and can easily be documented by the sponsor. Please have the supervisor of all non-school sponsored activities write a letter of recommendation, verifying your leadership role. Remember that the following are general guidelines/examples. The selection committee has the final decision of what constitutes as a leadership position.

Major:

- SCA Officer—documented by Ms. Glassford or Mrs. Guerin
- Club President—documented by the sponsor or
- Club Officer—FFA, DECA, Interact
- President of church or community organization
- Editor-in-chief of a school publication
- FCA Leadership team member—documented by the sponsor
- JROTC leadership— if documented by the sponsor
- Leadership position in school-sponsored activity not listed above: drum major; student director (music); student director, prop manager, or other responsible position in play production; documented by the sponsor
- Major leadership position in Scouts

Minor:

- Captain of sports teams, leadership responsibilities must be thoroughly explained
- SCA Executive Board, if supported by Mrs. Guerin or Ms. Glassford
- Junior/Senior Class Board, if supported by head class sponsor
- Club Officer
- Leadership position on school publication besides editor-in-chief, if supported by Ms. Marshall
- Section leader in marching band, if supported by Mr. Koch
- Church youth group officer other than President