



Selection Process

Last Revised: October 16, 2020

Membership in the National Honor Society is an honor, recognized throughout the nation, that is both the public recognition of accomplishment and the private commitment to continued excellence on the part of the new member. This selection process is designed for fairness and to provide meaningful recognition of deserving students. Selection to the National Honor Society is a privilege, not a right, as membership is granted only to those members that are selected by the BVCS Faculty Council on the basis of their Scholarship, Service to the Community, Leadership, and Character qualities.

The selection of active members is held once a year during the second semester of the school year. Students must be in grades 10-12 and have been in attendance at Boquet Valley Central School for a minimum of one semester to establish themselves academically and involve themselves in various service and leadership activities, and for the faculty to get to know them and the quality of their character.

The Scholarship portion of the selection process is conducted by the school guidance counselor reviewing students' academic records to determine those individuals who are scholastically eligible for membership, i.e., those persons who meet the required cumulative GPA standard and the minimum attendance requirement. According to the BVCS Excelsior Chapter of the National Honor Society bylaws the cumulative GPA must be at least 85.00% for membership to be considered.

The advisor works with the guidance counselor to verify each candidate fulfills the Course Points requirement explained below.

Course Points are given as follows:

5 POINTS for Regents level courses including, but not limited to: Global 10, English 11, U.S. History, Geometry, Algebra/Trig, Pre-calc/Calculus, and all sciences. AP and college courses will also earn 5 points.

2 POINTS for non-Regents courses and electives.

1 POINT for all half credit electives.

The minimum number of course points necessary to be selected or remain a member of the National Honor Society is 18 each year of high school.

Students do not receive points for courses dropped or failed. High School courses taken in grade 8 do count if they are being calculated into the student's overall cumulative GPA. The Faculty Council will consider individual students in vocational-educational programs or special circumstances.

The Advisor then notifies these students that they are being considered for membership. If the student wishes to pursue membership they must complete and return the [Candidate Information Form](#), request two letters of reference by non-school, non-family adults, request at least five current teachers to complete a [faculty recommendation form](#), and submit a [personal essay providing evidence](#) of the student's leadership, character, and service to the community. At the same time, the faculty, not limited to grades 7-12, is given a chance to complete [Faculty Input Forms](#) that are an opportunity for teachers that have had contact with the student to contribute information on service, leadership, and character qualities. For each student, each of these three qualities is evaluated on a scale of 1 to 4 and averaged by the adviser (to find a "quality point") for each category.

At this point, the information is placed in individual folders by the adviser for the Faculty Council. At a meeting of the Faculty Council, each student is then discussed for selection to the National Honor Society based on all information from the student and faculty, and voted on. To be selected as a member, each candidate must get a majority of the votes of the five-member council. The advisor of the NHS has no vote.

Students selected for membership will be notified in writing by the adviser in a timely manner. Following notification, a formal induction ceremony is held at the school to recognize all the newly selected members. Once inducted, new members are required to maintain the same level of performance (or better) in all four criteria that led to their selection.

Students that returned a completed Candidate Information Packet but are not selected will be notified and given an explanation of the selection process and reason(s), if possible.

In the event the non-selected student and/or parents are not satisfied with the Faculty Council's decision, the next level of discussion should take place with the principal within 10 school days of notification of non selection. The principal will listen to the concerns. If the principal believes that some technical or procedural mistake has been made, he/she may ask the Faculty Council to reconvene to review the situation. In the absence of specific evidence to the contrary, the principal must assume that the

members of the Faculty Council are exercising their discretion in a responsible and professional manner. If the non-selected student or parent wishes to challenge the principal's decision they should follow the school's complaint procedure.

The Honor Society's National Council has no authority to review or overturn the judgement of the Faculty Council regarding selection of individual members to local chapters.