



Recognize Your Student Leaders During National Student Leadership Week

Every year, there is one week sponsored by the national office of NEHS that is dedicated to celebrating student leaders. It is known as National Student Leadership Week (NSLW). This April 16-22, we recommend that you recognize your student leaders to reinforce the important role they play in your school and community, especially at such a young age.

Each year, NSLW carries a theme, and this year's theme is "Making a World of Difference," to coincide with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) Student Leadership Initiative: Global Citizenship. The two-year initiative brings members of NASSP's student programs—the National Elementary Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, and National Association of Student Councils—together to make a difference in their schools, communities, and beyond.

As an NEHS chapter, there are many ways your chapter can get involved in NSLW. From small gestures to bigger community events, every little bit counts. The most important thing is that your student leaders, school, and community realize the value in making a difference.

To share how you and your students are making a world of difference, we are challenging students and chapters to create how-to videos showing how they can

effect change in their schools and communities.

Similar to the recipe-preparation videos shared across social media (sometimes you'll see them called "Tasty" videos on Facebook, for example), videos can be short and sweet while driving home the importance of making global change.

If your chapter wants to step up to the challenge, this would be a great group activity! Ask your chapter members to imagine the "ingredients" they would need and the "recipe" they would create to "make" something change for the better. Share your videos on social media using #NSLW17 and #MakingGlobalChange for a chance to be featured on that student program's social media channels!

You can also share photos from your school events and activities with us on social media all week long using #NSLW17. Schedule an awards ceremony to honor students, advisers, and administrators for their work in student activities at your school or host a school cleanup day where student leaders help tidy up outdoors or organize classrooms. Visit the Suggested Activities section of www.nhs.us/nslw for other ideas to celebrate NSLW.

Don't forget—while we think it's important to honor student leaders (no matter what age!) every week of the year, April 16–22 is the week to really show how much you appreciate these students.

5 adorable shelter dogs



+1 animal adoption event



+5 eager student volunteers



+5 happy adoptive families



= global change by reducing animal shelter populations

ADVISER FAQs

Q: Our chapter is engaged in a variety of projects and activities that we'd like to promote. How do we best promote our chapter?

A: If you have an activity, event, or member accomplishment that you'd like to promote, the Adviser Resource Center on the NEHS website features "Promoting Your Chapter," a section devoted to helping you spread the word. From working with local media organizations to tips on effectively using social media, this section will help you publicize your chapter's and members' contributions to the school and community.

This section includes sample press releases for your induction ceremony or service projects. Log in to www.nehs.org/pr for these resources.

Q: What activities should my chapter be undertaking in the spring?

A: Most chapters conduct their selection process and induction ceremony in the spring. Once new members are inducted, advisers can begin planning for the end of the school year and transitions:

- *Awards Day and graduation planning.* Does your school hold a graduation or promotion ceremony? How will you recognize your outgoing members as the school year comes to an end? What supplies or insignia are needed? Visit the NEHS Store (www.nehs.org/store) to consider your options.

In this issue, we answer your questions about promoting your chapter and spring activities.

- *New officer elections.* Many chapters elect new officers in late spring. Have you planned for a transition from old officers to new? The Adviser Resource Center features a sample officer installation script under "Working with Members & Officers." Log on to www.nehs.org/arc to navigate to the section and download the script. Have you planned for outgoing officers to "pass the torch" to their counterparts and share tips on how to thrive as a chapter leader? Meet

with officers now to discuss the transition. Be sure to hold elections early enough in the semester to provide adequate time for new officer training.

- *End-of-year meetings and projects.* Many chapters have at least one meeting of the current and new members following the spring induction. Newly inducted members can consider goals and project ideas for next school year. Doing one well-organized service project is a great way to introduce new members to the steps involved in planning, implementing, and evaluating chapter projects.

- *End-of-year assessment.* Many advisers talk with outgoing officers to evaluate the chapter year. Members can be asked to offer comments and highlight challenges and accomplishments. Lastly, meet with the principal as the year comes to an end to evaluate chapter projects, the selection process, and any concerns. Provide a summary of the year's service projects that he/she can share with the superintendent or school board.

ADVISER TIP

PRODUCTIVE MEETINGS

Meetings are an excellent way to build leadership skills, conduct chapter business in an orderly manner, discuss chapter activities, and remind members of their responsibilities.

The NEHS Adviser Resource Center provides meeting planning resources for advisers and members. This section offers sample agendas, sample motion forms, guidance on parliamentary procedure, as well as tips for meeting preparation. Log in to the "Meeting Planning" section at www.nehs.org/meetings to get these important resources.

CHAPTER PROFILE

Three Honor Societies are Better Than One at Mount Carmel

Whoever said three's a crowd never heard about Mount Carmel School. Located on Saipan, an island in the U.S. commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Mount Carmel is a Catholic K-12 school that houses not just one, but all three National Honor Societies available to students from 4th through 12th grade.

With three chapters under one roof, Mount Carmel is in the unique position of offering a true sense of continuity for those who are inducted as elementary or middle-level students. The older students get to serve as role models, while the younger students are able to see firsthand what it takes to excel over the long-term—and even be role models themselves by demonstrating how to be scholars and leaders for the grades below.

“Our Honor Societies are here to motivate students to be their best,” says NJHS adviser Candida Bahillo. “They are here to make students well-rounded individuals and mold them as leaders.”

Three years ago, Mount Carmel's NEHS chapter made its debut under the direction of Principal Frances Taimanao, who believed that the character development the Honor Societies afford would be beneficial to the entire school. School President and 1991 “AlumKnight” (as graduates are called) Galvin Deleon Guerrero explains, “As much of the research in childhood development demonstrates, the foundation for lifelong success is laid in early childhood. So it's important to recognize and promote academic achievement and service with organizations like the National Elementary Honor Society.”

Each fully separate chapter is geared toward the age of the students who gain membership. Together, however, the trio

of Honor Societies at Mount Carmel is able to interact, thanks to the structure of the school. For example, in 2016, they held a joint ceremony where 66 students were inducted into their respective National Honor Societies as part of a celebration for the 20th anniversary of NHS at the school.

Something that all Honor Society students at Mount Carmel share, at every level, is an appreciation for the opportunity to engage in service and grow as a leader. As fifth-grade NEHS member Ranasia Bocago puts it, “This program helps shape my education by [helping me be] a role model to my peers; keep up with my studies; and help my community, my school, and especially those in need.”

Sixth-grader Yurihana Sasamoto echoes Bocago's perspective saying, “We are here to help everyone in our community.”

The sentiment they share is translated into action on a regular basis, with members spearheading and participating in numerous service activities, from supporting community projects such as the annual Marianas March Against Cancer and American Red Cross Walk-a-Thon, to lending a hand at the Salvation Army's soup kitchen and several community cleanup campaigns.

Being a leader at school and in the community is something that senior and NHS President Michael Ortizo—once a member of NJHS—takes to heart: “It is only by example that we can really learn and grow, and the National Honor Society acts as that example for everyone striving to become a good role model.”



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GALVIN DELEON GUERRERO, MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL

IDEA EXCHANGE

IMAGINE THAT!

Here is a roundup of projects and activities you can discover when you search the National Student Project Database: www.nehs.org/projects.

SUMMER FUN AND LEARNING ACADEMY OF GREATNESS AND EXCELLENCE, TEANECK, NJ

To support the NEHS pillar of scholarship and help students retain and enhance literacy skills over the summer, the academy's NEHS students designed "reading and writing kits." NEHS students filled these kits with a variety of activities geared to promote continued learning, fun, and creativity throughout the summer. Kits were donated to the East Rutherford Memorial Library where NEHS students met with Maria Russo, head of children's services. Ms. Russo spoke to students about the importance of summer reading programs.

To implement this project, contact your local public library to ask about any youth outreach or summer programs they may have. Libraries may need writing supplies and other items to help conduct summer programming.



POSITIVE POST-IT NOTES COLLEGIUM CHARTER SCHOOL, EXTON, PA

Each day for two weeks, the NJHS chapter at Collegium Charter School wrote positive and encouraging messages on Post-it notes. They started by posting them on walls and bulletin boards, then branched out to individual student lockers. They added Post-its each day, and eventually each student's locker was covered in positive messages. On the last day, the Post-it notes were collected and put on a bulletin board.

This is a fun, easy-to-adapt project for any chapter. Start by talking to your principal about the idea, and work with arts teachers or the main office to get supplies—Post-its, markers, glitter, stickers, etc. Next, assign members to identify a theme for each day (or every other day) and identify designated areas for posting.





SHARE THE LOVE CANNED FOOD DRIVE CLASSICAL STUDIES MAGNET ACADEMY BRIDGEPORT, CT

This outreach collected goods for families in need as well as taught members and students what it truly means to give back to the community. NJHS members created flyers, made daily announcements, and encouraged parents to become involved.

The drive ran for two weeks, and the chapter collected more than 600 canned goods, boxed pastas, and other food items. All contributions were donated to the Norma F. Pfriem Urban Outreach Initiatives, where NJHS members also donated three hours of their time transporting the boxes, then unloading and sorting items for families.

Sharing is Caring!

The National Student Project Database needs your ingenuity. Share a project with other NEHS chapters. Please upload your project description and photos and let us know about all of the great things your chapter is doing. Tips for submitting projects:

- Include photos, if available.
- Provide a written description of the project that includes the project date(s), names of any partner organizations or schools, and details that give the reader a full understanding of the project's scope and impact.

VISIT WWW.NEHS.ORG/PROJECTS TODAY.



GLOBAL CLASSROOM SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL HANOVER, MA

Through their school supply drive called Global Classroom, the NHS chapter at Hanover High School collected new school supplies from both the student body and OfficeMax customers. For two weekends, three hours per day, members stood outside OfficeMax and collected donations. Another box in the school's main office encouraged donations from classmates. Throughout May, the members collected a large amount of school supplies. They then packed and shipped the donations to a small, poverty-stricken town in the Philippines. Through this project, they were able to help a school on the other side of the world have a successful school year.

Here's Watson!

We often ask NEHS News readers: Where's Watson? Well, we found him—at Mary E. Bryant Elementary School in Tampa, FL. Their NEHS chapter hosted a Watson visit in November, as members were planning a holiday toy drive for their annual Week of Caring.

Watson arrived early to help the chapter promote the drive scheduled for November 17. Watson appeared on the school's morning show and was seen around campus encouraging students to participate. As part of the kickoff, Watson also starred in a promotional video with NEHS members Evan and Olivia. See the video on the NEHS website at www.nehs.org/benefits.

Dubbing themselves the “compassionate broncos,” Evan, Olivia, and Watson asked all students to bring joy to a child in a homeless shelter by donating new and unwrapped toys for children in need. The toys were donated to Metropolitan Ministries, a nonprofit organization serving poor and homeless families in Hillsborough and surrounding counties. With Watson's help, the students filled 12 giant bins with toys.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRYANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Would you like Watson to visit your school to help promote or participate in an event?

He's looking forward to visiting more schools in the spring semester, so send your request today to nehs@nehs.org. Watson visits are assigned on a first-come basis. Requests should include the following:

- School name and location.
- Purpose of visit (i.e., induction ceremony, service activity, promotion, etc.).
- Date(s) of your event.

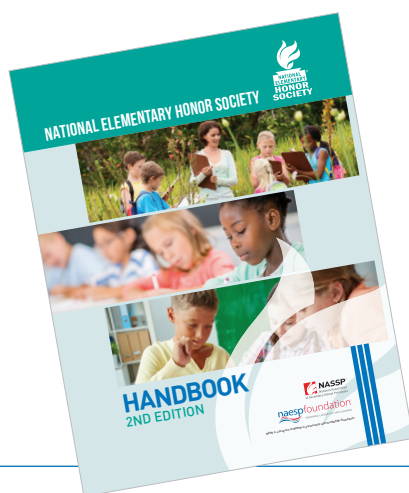
Chapters are asked to provide a written summary and photos of the visit within 15 days of the visit's conclusion. Watson's travels will be highlighted in NEHS publications.



SHOP THE NEHS STORE NOW AND SAVE!

Are you preparing for spring induction or upcoming service projects? Let the NEHS Store supply you with everything you need to make these events and activities memorable. Think about your needs for membership cards, candles, banners, T-shirts, and more.

Visit the online store today at www.nehs.org/store to save 15 percent now until March 31, 2017. Use promo code IND17 to get the discount. The code can be used on multiple orders placed in the online NEHS Store and applies to online orders only. Don't delay! Take advantage of this special offer and order your chapter's spring supplies today.



NEHS Handook Has Been Updated

The official NEHS National Handbook is all-new.

The content has been reorganized and revised. Chapter management resources and tools have been consolidated into one section at the end of the handbook. Web addresses have been updated.

While many chapter management needs can be addressed using content posted online, particularly through the Adviser Resource Center (www.nehs.org/arc), the handbook is available for those who prefer a written document to reference for process, procedures, and resources.

The new second edition is now available for download through the Adviser Resource Center. Log in at www.nehs.org/arc to access your copy. Alternatively, you may purchase one or more copies from the NEHS Store online. Visit www.nehs.org/store and make your secure online purchase.

Tell Us Your Story!

We are always looking for chapters to profile or clever project ideas to spotlight. Consider sharing your experience for a future issue of NEHS News. Email nehs@nehs.org with details and your contact information. We look forward to hearing from you!



NEHS is a program of the National Association of Secondary School Principals in partnership with the NAESP (National Association of Elementary School Principals) Foundation.

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Dennis Sadler, *Deputy Executive Director of Operations*
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Todd Laudino, *Senior Manager, Honor Societies, Virtual Programs*
Elancia Felder, *Manager of Honor Society Policies and Procedures*
www.naesp.org

NAESP

Steven D. Geis, *President*
Gail Connelly, *Executive Director*
Ernie Mannino, *Deputy Executive Director and CEO, NAESP Foundation*
Kara Boyer, *NEHS liaison*
www.naesp.org

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Contact Us

Mail:

NEHS
1904 Association Drive
Reston, VA 20191-1537

Phone:

866-599-6347 (toll free)
or 703-860-0200, option 5

Fax:

703-476-5432

Email:

nehs@nehs.org

Online:

www.nehs.org/contact



1904 Association Drive
Reston, VA 20191

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NEHS NEWS

SPRING 2017

GET PREPARED FOR AWARD SEASON

High-achieving students work hard throughout the year to meet challenging standards of excellence. Have you considered recognizing your students through the President's Education Award Program or American Citizenship Award program?

The President's Education Award Program includes an embossed certificate signed by the

president of the United States and the U.S. secretary of education. A congratulatory letter from the president is included.

The American Citizenship Award pin honors the words and actions of students who help to improve school climate and culture, participate in school/community service, and promote citizenship through their

activities. Pins are available for \$3.50 each. When you purchase 10 or more, the cost is \$3.00 each.

The support and encouragement you give to your students can go a long way. These awards are available through the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP). Visit www.nehs.org/awards for details and links to place an order.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Share *your* experience. Share your chapter's experience. We are always looking for creative project ideas to highlight or chapters to profile. Consider telling us your story for a future issue of *NEHS News*. Email nehs@nehs.org with details and your contact information. We can't wait to hear from you!

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.”

DR. SEUSS

March 2 is Read Across America Day. Celebrate with your chapter and discover more profound thoughts from Dr. Seuss and other inspiring contributors on the NEHS Facebook page: www.facebook/elementaryhonors.

