



**NEHS** | NATIONAL ENGLISH  
HONOR SOCIETY  
for High Schools

The NEHS, founded and sponsored by Sigma Tau Delta, is a national organization for high school students and faculty who, in the field of English, merit special note for past and current accomplishments. Immediate benefits of affiliation will be national recognition, scholarship eligibility, and opportunities for national networking with others who share a high level of enthusiasm for, and accomplishment in, the language arts. **West Potomac High School's** chapter of the NEHS has been chartered under the name "**The Paul Russell Society,**" and elects officers yearly to govern its activities.

**Our Mission:** The mission and purposes of this organization shall be literary and educational in focus. The NEHS shall strive to confer distinction upon secondary school students for high achievement in English language and literature; provide, through its local chapters, cultural stimulation in secondary school environments; encourage interest in the English language arts; promote exemplary character and good fellowship among its members; and serve society by fostering literacy. Through involvement with their chapters, NEHS members will receive opportunities to advance the study of language and literature, to develop skills in creative and analytical writing, and to meet others in the discipline of English.

**Membership Requirements:** The NEHS is open to high school students who have demonstrated exceptional ability in such areas as literary analysis, journalism, composition, forensics/debate, linguistic study, film/media studies, and creative writing, and who meet the requirements of membership. Each new member pays an induction fee of **\$20.00**, entitling the member to full NEHS benefits, their membership certificate, and their inductee pin. We also ask that the student consider making an additional donation (suggested amount **\$5.00** to **\$10.00**) to assist the chapter with its yearly operating expenses; this additional donation is NOT required, however. Dues are \$10/year thereafter for each year the member continues to attend West Potomac.

To be accepted into the Society, the student must meet the following four requirements:

1. Have completed at least two semesters (or four quarters) of English at the high school level (i.e., be at least a sophomore), and have attended least one semester (two quarters) at West Potomac (the one semester/two quarters requirement at West Potomac can be waived in certain circumstances).
2. Be currently enrolled in an English Honors, AP English, or Dual Enrollment course (this requirement can also be waived in certain circumstances).
3. Have a cumulative high-school GPA of **3.5** in English (B+), and an overall GPA of **3.0**.
4. Be recommended by a high school English teacher who is familiar with you as a student and your accomplishments, who can attest to your scholarship and dedication in the discipline of English.

**Active Membership** requires attendance at meetings, participation in service projects, and other activities planned by and agreed upon by the membership. Students are expected to plan and participate in the chapter's activities, promote the goals of the Society, and always represent the organization positively.

**Application Instructions:** *Please read all instructions on all parts of the application carefully!* Please fill out the application by either typing or writing neatly **in ink**. Except for the cover page and this letter, please submit the application in a standard, white envelope with your name and "**NEHS Application**" on the envelope, and then give it to **Mr. Cadorette** in Quander 434, or drop it off at the Main Office for his mailbox. This needs to be submitted by **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**. Any incomplete applications will **not** be considered. Please do **NOT** pay any dues until you have received an acceptance letter.



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**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP 2019-2020**  
**Please do NOT submit dues until your application is approved!**

**1) Applicant Information**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT Email (Personal address preferred, one that you actually use and check regularly) \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone

**2) Membership Requirements**

**IMPORTANT: You must have your counselor verify the following information, OR PROVIDE A PRINTED TRANSCRIPT, and they need to sign below.**

Date (MM/YY) Enrolled/Begun at WPHS: \_\_\_\_\_ Expected Graduation Date (MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative High School English GPA (min. 3.5): \_\_\_\_\_ Cumulative High School GPA: (min. 3.0): \_\_\_\_\_

Advanced Placement or Dual Enrollment classes enrolled in or completed (include all subjects, not just English): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Core English classes completed (indicate level AND grade earned): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

English-related electives taken (i.e., Speech/Debate, Film Studies, Creative Writing, or Journalism): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

High school honors classes enrolled in or completed (include all subjects, not just English): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Verified by:**  
**Counselor Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### 3) Intent Essay (REQUIRED!)

Please write and attach an intent essay explaining why you wish to be a member of the National English Honor Society (no longer than 250-500 words). You should briefly discuss how your study of the English language has affected you personally, and you may also wish to include your ideas for possible English honor society activities. The essay should showcase what is special and engaging about you – be creative and show us your writing style! Your submission should be **printed, double-spaced, 1” margins, in 12-point Times New Roman font**. Your application will **NOT** be considered without this essay!

### 4) Your Activities and Achievements

English-related activities & achievements (i.e., articles or poems published in school and non-school publications, speeches given to the student body, or related activities): \_\_\_\_\_

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Membership in WPHS or community sports teams and/or performing arts groups: \_\_\_\_\_

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Membership in other honor societies or service clubs: \_\_\_\_\_

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### 5) Your English “Passions”

Your favorite author/writer/poet and why: \_\_\_\_\_

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Your favorite book/text/poem and why: \_\_\_\_\_

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Your favorite word and why: \_\_\_\_\_

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Earliest fond memory of reading or writing: \_\_\_\_\_

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## 6) Honor Statement

Have you ever been referred to a principal or the Honor Council for serious misconduct or academic dishonesty? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please **WRITE OUT** the following statement in the space provided below, and then sign your name.

***“To the best of my knowledge, the above information is true and correct. False or misleading information will result denial of membership in the NEHS.”***

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

All parts of this application, including the essay must be submitted by **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**, to Mr. Cadorette in Quander 434, or dropped off at the Main Office for his mailbox. The completed application should be in a standard white envelope, sealed, with the applicant's name and **“NEHS Application”** written or typed on the envelope. Incomplete applications will **not** be considered.

**APPLICANT: DO NOT WRITE IN SHADED AREA BELOW,  
AND PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT DUES UNTIL  
YOUR APPLICATION IS APPROVED. THANK YOU.**

### **NEHS Faculty Advisory Council:**

Applicant's credentials verified by counselor \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Application reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Action taken: \_\_\_\_\_ Accepted \_\_\_\_\_ Denied \_\_\_\_\_ Referred to full FAC



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## Application for Membership: Teacher Recommendation

This portion of your application needs to be completed by the English teacher agreeing to recommend you, and should be returned to Mr. Cadorette by **Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher Name

**I hereby waive my right of access to the teacher recommendation for the NEHS application process.**

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The student named above is applying for membership in the West Potomac High School chapter of the National English Honor Society. In order to qualify for selection, students must meet certain scholarship requirements. Provided they meet the scholarship requirements, they must also demonstrate significant qualities of character, responsibility, and leadership. Please circle a value (**4 is good/high, 1 is poor/low**) corresponding to your assessment of the candidate's qualities. **Please explain any rating of "2" or "1" with comments indicating the circumstances that led to this below-average rating.**

**Year / grade / course you taught student:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Character:**                      4                                      3                                      2                                      1  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Responsibility:**                      4                                      3                                      2                                      1  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Leadership:**                      4                                      3                                      2                                      1  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Comments (if any):** \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to **Mr. Cadorette** (Quander 434 or Main Office mailbox)  
by **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**

*Thank you! The Society truly appreciates your help in this process!*