



**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 merit special notice for past and current accomplishments in their study of English. 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 English 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 the community society by fostering literacy.

Through involvement with their chapters, NEHS members will receive opportunities to advance the study of language and literature, develop skills in creative and analytical writing, and 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 a fee of **\$30.00**. We also ask that new members consider making an additional donation (suggested amount **\$5.00** to **\$10.00**) to assist the chapter with costs related to the induction ceremony and other 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 at 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 and an overall GPA of 3.00.
4. Be recommended by an English teacher who has known 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 monthly meetings, participation in service projects, and other activities planned by and agreed upon by the members. 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 blue or black ink**. Except for the cover page and this letter, please submit your application **in a** standard, white envelope with your name and "**NEHS Application**" on the envelope, and either give it to **Mr. Cadorette** in Quander 434 or drop it off at the Main Office for his mailbox. This **must** be submitted by **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**. Incomplete applications will **NOT** be considered. Please do **NOT** include any dues until you have been accepted!



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**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP 2021-2022**  
**(Please do NOT include any dues until your application is approved!)**

**1) Applicant Information**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT Email (**Personal address preferred**,  
one you actually use and check regularly) \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Phone

**2) Membership Requirements**

**IMPORTANT: You must either have your counselor verify the following information and they need to sign below, OR you can attach a printed transcript.**

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

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 (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.

This essay should express 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 the essay!

### **4) Your Activities and Achievements**

English-related activities & achievements (i.e., articles or poems published in school and non-school publications, speeches 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 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?

NO \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_

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 in denial of membership in the NEHS.”*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

All parts of this application, including the essay, must be submitted by **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17<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. Please do **NOT** include any dues until you have been accepted.!

**PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN THE SHADED AREA BELOW. A  
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

**STUDENTS:** This portion of your application needs to be completed by the English teacher recommending you and should be returned to Mr. Cadorette by **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>th</sup>**.

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

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

The student named above is applying for membership in “The Paul Russell Society,” West Potomac’s chapter of the National English Honor Society. To qualify for selection, students must meet certain scholarship requirements. Provided they meet these, they must also demonstrate high qualities of character, responsibility, and leadership, particularly in their English classes.

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 you believe led to this below-average rating.**

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

**CHARACTER:**            4                                  3                                  2                                  1  
Comments (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

**RESPONSIBILITY:**    4                                  3                                  2                                  1  
Comments (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

**LEADERSHIP:**            4                                  3                                  2                                  1  
Comments (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Please return this form to **Mr. Cadorette** (Quander 434 or Main Office mailbox) by **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**.

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