

Highland Park High School

2020-2021 Honor Council Application Packet

To the applicant:

The primary mission of the Highland Park High School Honor Council is to provide students who have been judged by their teachers as having committed academic dishonesty an appropriate forum where they may be heard. It is the responsibility of the Honor Council to hear from both student and teacher whenever there is a disputed allegation of academic dishonesty and, after careful deliberation, provide to the accused student's administrator their finding of innocence or guilt as well as any recommendations for resolution. Regardless of the outcome, the honor council's guiding focus is to provide the accused student with a learning opportunity regarding the importance of academic integrity and ensure the student is fully aware of the damage that can and does occur in settings after high school should future dishonesty reoccur.

The secondary mission of the Honor Council is to educate all students about academic integrity and encourage peer accountability for academic integrity throughout the school.

The Honor Council is composed of nine student members: four seniors, three juniors, and two sophomores. Every Spring, one junior, one sophomore, and two freshmen are added to the Council.

Completed Honor Council applications are due to SC104 no later than 3:30 pm on Thursday, March 26th. All applications must be **handwritten** by the applicant. The Honor Council will review each eligible candidate's application, teacher recommendations (2), and high school record to reduce the application pool to five student candidates from each grade level. These fifteen candidates will then be interviewed by members of the Honor Council, who will select their top three candidates from each grade level to be placed on the ballot. These nine finalists will have shown to meet the highest standards of academic integrity and character.

Once placed on the ballot, candidates will be introduced to the student body at the assembly on Friday, April 17th and the election will be held immediately following the assembly. New members will begin participating in all Honor Council hearings immediately. Once elected, members serve on the Honor Council until graduation.

Whenever an opening on the council occurs at any time other than at graduation, the student finalist who received the next highest votes from the most recent election from the grade level with the opening will be offered a seat on the council.

Honor Council members are expected to attend all hearings unless a legitimate conflict exists. If a member fails to attend more than one hearing without notifying their assistant principal in advance they may be dismissed from the Council. If a member is found guilty of academic dishonesty, or any other serious character or conduct violation, they will be immediately removed from the Council.

The Honor Council serves a critical role at HPHS. Council members are expected to maintain the highest standards of confidentiality as their responsibilities require them to access and deliberate upon students' private school records. Members must maintain a spotless reputation of academic honesty and confidence by the faculty in order to preserve the integrity of the Council.

Thank you for showing interest in this important group.

HPHS Honor Council and Administration

Student Name _____ Current Grade Level _____

1. Why do you want to be a member of the Honor Council?
2. What Highland Park High School **and** community service activities are you currently involved in?
3. What specific positive qualities make you a leader among your peers?
4. Do you think academic dishonesty is a problem at HPHS? Explain your response.
5. How do you define cheating in the academic setting?
6. What specific factor(s) do you consider when making a determination between right and wrong?

I certify that all of the information in this application is accurate and understand that this information will be used in the Honor Council's decision for placing candidates on the ballot. I understand that the nomination decisions are at the sole discretion of Honor Council members and Campus Administrators.

Student signature _____ Email _____ Date _____

Teacher Recommendation Form for Honor Council Candidates
Please return to SC104 no later than Thursday, March 26th at 3:30 pm
Please DO NOT return this form to the student.

Student name _____

Teacher name _____

Teacher signature _____

Character & Integrity

1= All the Time 2= Most of the Time 3= Some of the Time 4= Seldom

- ____ 1. Models ethical behavior
- ____ 2. Encourages/inspires ethical behavior from peers
- ____ 3. Has gained the trust of faculty/staff
- ____ 4. Able to withstand negative influences
- ____ 5. Sets the standard for honesty and integrity
- ____ 6. Committed to doing what's right no matter the cost
- ____ 7. Intolerant of shortcuts
- ____ 8. Honors hard work
- ____ 9. Respects the rules and expects others to do the same
- ____ 10. Takes pride in personal success only when acquired honestly

Teachers: Please describe a first-hand experience witnessing this student exemplifying high standards of character and/or integrity.

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HPISD Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct

Applicable to All Honor Council Members

The Highland Park Independent School District encourages student participation in extracurricular activities. HPISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program with this important difference: while participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, participating in extracurricular programs is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students and the District whether or not they are actively performing, wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies the student to the community or public in any setting as HPISD students. For this reason, their conduct must at all times display respect for themselves, their organization, and HPISD. An important goal of all extracurricular programs is to provide students directions in developing self-discipline, responsibility, pride, loyalty, leadership, teamwork, respect for authority, and healthy living habits.

Students involved in extracurricular activities, including participation in the HPHS Honor Council, are held to a higher standard of conduct than the general study body. HPISD views participation in extracurricular activities as a privilege. As such, students elected to the HPHS Honor Council will be held accountable to the HPISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct. Honor Council members and their parents understand and accept that all behavioral expectations, as well as corresponding consequences and the jurisdiction for imposing discipline found in the HPISD Extracurricular Code of the Conduct, will be applied to members of the HPHS Honor Council. Therefore, my decision to submit my application for the Highland Park High School Honor Council indicates my understanding and willingness to abide by the Code.

I understand that the HPISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct may be viewed and downloaded from the district website under "Athletic Forms".

Eligibility Requirements for Membership in Honor Council

- Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of at least a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale as calculated under HPISD policy throughout the fall semester of the current school year. Grade point averages are not rounded. Candidates must be academically eligible at the time of the election to run for office.
- Candidates must not have been found guilty of a serious offense under the HPISD Code of Conduct in either the immediately preceding or current semester in which the student is running. The administration will determine the severity of any offense. Placement in the District's DAEP permanently disqualifies the student from eligibility.