



THE CHARGER

NHS welcomes new members at induction ceremony

Lauren Schutter | spots editor

The National Honor Society club inducted new members Andrew Grutsch, Maverick Havenstein, Jacob Meseke, Robert Potter, Lanson Parry, Rebekah Stuhlzatz, Paxton Meyer and Annie Wright during a ceremony September 20.

Students can apply to the club after their sophomore year. The selection process includes grades, letters of recommendation and an essay. A panel of teachers helps make the selection each year.

This ceremony is done annually, last year inducting members Kara Hafenstine, Emma Alderman, Cecelia Emmert, Kyndal Maike, Kaelyn Conrad, Lauren Schutter, Brayden Meseke, Sarah Vanstory and Madisyn Havenstein.

The night opened up with an introductory speech from sponsor Miriam Barton, who thanked the parents and loved ones of all members for their guidance in the students' academics and leadership. She had those who were there in support for a loved one stand, and the members applauded them.

After words from Barton, officers of the club spoke about the most important aspects of the club: scholarship, leadership, service and character.

The club also hosted a keynote speaker: the legendary Brock Emmert (father of current member Celia Emmert). He spoke about how being in NHS positively affected his home and work life, and what he does in his job. He works as a wetland conservationist and does a lot of public speaking and presentation work. Emmert said the attributes focused on by the National Honor Society have helped him in the development of his business and reminded him to always give back to others when possible.

To conclude the ceremony, principal Jan Hutley spoke to address the students.

NHS started the year with a fundraiser selling watermelon at Hot Alma Nights, and intends to sell coffee every Friday before school. The club will do leaf raking November 6 and will sell candy bouquets at Christmas to raise money for Children's Mercy.



Top: Juniors AJ Grutsch, Maverick Havenstein, Jacob Meseke, Paxton Meyer, Lanson Parry, Robert Potter, Rebekah Stuhlzatz and Annie Wright are inducted into NHS at a ceremony September 20. **Above:** Brock Emmert delivers the keynote speech. He highlighted the lessons he learned participating in NHS. **Middle Right:** Junior Paxton Meyer signs her name during the ceremony. **Bottom Right:** Junior Lanson Parry walks across the stage during the induction. Each member took a bite out of their medal.



KSHSAA team provides input from students



Mayah Mumpower | news editor

Each year six juniors across the state of Kansas are selected to be a part of the KSHSAA Student Advisory Team.

Last year, I was one of the selected students and I currently serve as one of the 2A representatives. As a member of the team, part of my job is to provide input to the KSHSAA Executive Board, Board of Directors and Association staff about issues affecting students.

The team also serves as a sounding board on proposals affecting students. KSHSAA encourages each team member to develop a network and communicate with other students regarding advisory team positions and express student opinions relative to the KSHSAA activities, rules and policies.

The team has a couple meetings throughout the year where it discusses a wide variety of topics.

Here are some things we discussed at the most recent meeting:

- Outside competition during the season. Since we are a fairly small student community, multiple people choose to compete in out-of-school activities. This also occurs in many other school districts as well. To address this issue, it has been proposed that athletes should be able to compete in one outside competition in season. The outside competition would count towards the amount of games they are allowed to play in a regular season.
- Mental health. Mental health is a very prominent subject in schools now. As a group, we discussed how our schools are dealing with mental health and how KSHSAA could get involved with it in academics and athletics.
- Private school classifications. Currently they are classified the same way as public schools but some of the private schools have a large advantage in competition. KSHSAA is considering proposing a multiplier that could change the classification of a private school based on criteria such as location and recent state championships.
- The addition of 6-man football. Some schools have difficulty fielding a roster for 8-man, let alone 11-man. Starting in 2022, 26 Kansas teams will play 6-man football (WHS will continue to play 11-man).
- Basketball shot clocks. Should high school basketball add shot clocks to look more like the college game, or does the cost and difficulty outweigh the benefits? This discussion will continue for sure.

Being on the advisory team allows me to give input on how new issues could affect our school. If any student has thoughts or ideas to bring to the committee, let me know.

Academic Briefs | Students recognized for academic excellence

ALDERMAN, MAIKE NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS COMPETITION

Seniors Emma Alderman and Kyndal Maike were nominated to participate in the 2021-22 U.S. Presidential Scholars Competition, which annually honors the nation's most distinguished graduating seniors.

The national initiative commences at the local level and concludes in June with 161 students being named U.S. Presidential Scholars.

Alderman will participate in the broad academic achievement category, while Maike will compete in the career and technical education accomplishment division.

ALDERMAN NAMED NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED STUDENT

Senior Emma Alderman has been named a commended student in the National Merit Scholarship Program. About 34,000 students throughout the nation were recognized in the 2022 competition based on their performance on the PSAT.

Principal Jan Hutley praised Alderman for her achievement. "We are so proud of Emma for her academic accomplishments, as we know achievements like these are the result of years of dedication and hard work."

USD 329 DOWN 33 STUDENTS FROM LAST YEAR

Wabaunsee released enrollment numbers after the September 21 count day, and USD 329 is down 33 students from last year.

The total of 380 enrolled students includes 97 at Alma Elementary, 72 at Maple Hill, 75 at Wabaunsee Junior High and 136 at Wabaunsee High School. Pre-K students at Alma and Maple Hill add another 34 students.

WHS REMAINS 2A

The Kansas State High School Activities Association released classifications last week based on enrollment numbers.

At 134 students in high school, WHS remains 2A. It's the 26th largest 2A out of 64, with enrollments ranging from 107-173.

In football, the Chargers will remain 1A for the next two seasons. The addition of 6-man football caused several changes, but the Chargers remain in the smallest 11-man division.

In the Mideast League, Rock Creek bumps up to 4A (3A football) while St. Marys drops to 2A. St. Marys will also drop to 1A in football, meaning a possible league matchup for the first time since the Chargers became independent in football. Silver Lake, Riley

County and Rossville remain in 3A (2A football). Mission Valley joins WHS in 2A (1A football) with an enrollment of 147.

FFA PARTICIPATES IN LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

FFA traveled to McPherson Friday, taking 16 kids for the Eagle Classic Livestock Judging contest. There were 35 teams of 4, including 3 WHS teams. Out of the 35 teams, the Chargers placed 1st in beef cattle judging. There are 4 individual judging contests: pig, cattle, goat and sheep. Students are scored individually and overall score. Overall WHS placed 4th out of the 35 teams. Freshman Aubrey Imthurn placed 5th overall and 4th in cattle.

The freshman traveled to the annual Greenhand conference Wednesday, which is an introduction to FFA. In the FFA knowledge test, freshman Grady Perrin placed 14th out of 600 other participants and freshman Aubrey Imthurn was just outside of the top 20. FFA supervisor Davis had said "A goal of mine has always been to get top 20."

FFA traveled to the Konza Prairie Tuesday with 20 of Wabaunsee's sophomores, juniors and seniors. They had learned about tall grass prairie management and got to see bison roaming the area.