

# National Honor Society



**Introduction.** Comfort High School has operated a chapter of the National Honor Society on campus since 1982, when it was founded by two faculty members – Mrs. Diane Hubbard and Mr. Ralph Real. At that time the high school faculty decided to name the chapter the Gerhard Petermann Chapter of the National Honor Society, after the late Mr. Gerhard Petermann, long-time Comfort resident who worked in the Comfort Schools as a teacher, coach, principal, and superintendent. Additionally, the high school faculty established the procedures for the selection and induction of student members. Two groups of faculty members are responsible for the overall operation of the Gerhard Petermann Chapter: the Faculty Council for NHS Affairs, responsible for the selection and disciplining of chapter members, and the Chapter Faculty, responsible for all other activities and affairs of the chapter. A brief description of the selection process is given below. Any individual desiring more detailed information may contact the Chapter Adviser who will answer your questions or concerns, where possible. Currently, Mr. Ralph Real serves as the NHS Chapter Adviser.

**Selection.** Juniors and seniors are selected for membership in the National Honor Society based on their character, scholarship, leadership, and service. Each year, in the spring, juniors and seniors with cumulative averages of 93 (beginning with the Class of 2019) and above are asked to submit an information packet for membership. The faculty then rates each of the candidates in character, service, and leadership. The Chapter Adviser then gathers other information regarding the candidates, usually data concerning discipline issues, attendance, and extra-curricular involvement. The actual decision regarding election to the Gerhard Petermann Chapter of the National Honor Society at Comfort High School is made by a majority vote of a five-member Faculty Council for National Honor Society Affairs. This council is appointed annually by the Chapter Head, the Principal of Comfort High School. Neither the principal, nor the assistant principal, is permitted to participate in the Council's deliberations or voting. The Chapter Adviser, the member of the Chapter Faculty responsible for day-to-day activities of the Chapter, is an *ex-officio* sixth member of the Faculty Council, chairing the proceedings, but not voting. The calculations of students' G.P.A.'s and the procedures for the selection process are governed by the NHS Constitution and the Gerhard Petermann Chapter By-Laws. Any student or parent interested in more information concerning the NHS selection process at Comfort High School may contact the Chapter Adviser. Once elected, members are required to maintain the standards of scholarship, character, service, and leadership required for election into the chapter. Chapter members failing to maintain these requirements are subject to discipline and/or dismissal from the National Honor Society. The Chapter Adviser may prescribe certain disciplinary measures, but more serious violations are handled by the Faculty Council of National Honor Society Affairs. The Gerhard Petermann Chapter By-Laws are under the governance of the Gerhard Petermann Chapter Faculty. The Chapter Faculty is also responsible for the conduct of the chapter ceremonies, and decides annually the recipients of the Chapter scholarships should they be awarded. On the night of commencement, graduating seniors of the chapter wear the Gold Stole, and for those seniors inducted during their junior year, the large Gold Tassel.