

# National Honor Society at MHS

- Dan Rosenberg

The National Honor Society at Marblehead High School is an important piece of academic life at the high school. But it's much more than that as well. The really great part of the National Honor Society is the service component. In his address to the Society during the Fall Induction, Marblehead High School Principal Layne Millington described the members of NHS as "elite." The members of the society are some of the best and brightest Marblehead High School has to offer, not only intellectually, but in terms of leadership as well. The goal of the society is to involve students in the greater community, as well as the school, and provide opportunities for service and mentoring to a select group of students.

This year, NHS is especially focused upon service to the community, both inside and outside of the high school. This year, there are more members than ever before, with nearly 25% of the senior class as participants. President Alex Conn, in his address to the congregated members of NHS on October 16th, asserted that this increased membership will allow the society's chapter at MHS to reach even greater heights, as there will be even more members available for tutoring, and various service endeavors within the community. In fact, they have already begun on at least one major service undertaking.

On Sunday, September 15th, dozens of NHS members converged in South Boston, representing Team Suzanne at the Ovarian Cancer Coalitions' walk to raise awareness for Ovarian Cancer. This group of teenagers, along with other members of the Marblehead community, exceeded even the most optimistic of expectations, raising over \$15,000, and becoming the top fundraising team at the walk. Every single National Honor Society member was involved in this effort some way; some woke up early in the morning and walked, or ran, to support Team Suzanne. Others donated their time to sell t-shirts and collect donations during the school day, raising hundreds of dollars through that route. Still others helped to raise more money at events like back-to-school night, in early October. Suzanne Wedel, for whom Team Suzanne was named, said of the occasion, "It was an honor to walk side by side with so many remarkable teens."

It really is remarkable to see such a large number of students coming together on such a benevolent endeavor. That's the great part about the National Honor Society, it gets many teenagers involved in service opportunities they might never have otherwise had. The word "elite" often has a connotation of rising above; the students of NHS certainly exemplified this idea, and showed that teens can make a huge difference in the world if they just set their minds to it.