



NASSP Student Programs Service Report

Student Leaders Continue Making a Difference

September 2014

NASSP Student Programs

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Student Leaders Continue Making a Difference

September 2014

During the 2013–2014 school year, students in the nation's secondary schools were making a significant difference in their schools and communities—illustrating the high value of student activities and the services they provide in schools. The data from the annual adviser surveys produced by the National Honor Society (NHS), National Junior Honor Society (NJHS), and the National Association of Student Councils (NASC)—three of the outstanding student leadership organizations administered by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)—support this conclusion.

In 2014, more than 3,800 honor society and student council advisers responded to the annual online surveys. The following summary of the survey results highlights the service activities of these groups.

Donating Millions to Charity. Charitable fundraising projects, through which chapters and councils engaged their peers to help donate to a variety of worthy causes, display the generous spirit of young people. Student council advisers reported raising \$1,544,516 during the last school year. Honor society advisers reported collecting \$2,983,648. Combined, a total of more than \$4.5 million in charitable giving was reported. The top recipients of these funds included the American Cancer Society and other cancer-related charities, food banks and soup kitchens, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the American Red Cross, and children's hospitals including St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Local schools and scholarship funds were also common donation recipients.

Astounding Hours of Service. Councils and chapters annually engage in a great variety of service projects at school and in their communities. Based on reports from NASC advisers, their members contributed 680,005 hours of service, equating to more than 1,800 hours per council. NHS and NJHS chapters reported 3,309,690 hours of service or 1,032 hours per chapter. Using the current federal minimum hourly wage (\$7.25) as a value for each of these reported service hours, the value of the nearly four million hours of service equates to almost \$29 million in service contributions by student members of these three national student organizations.

Food, Blood, and Spirit. Honor society advisers were asked to provide details on service projects involving food and blood donations at their schools. Chapters reported collecting, on average, more than 970 pounds of food each. Extrapolated out to the national membership, this would indicate that NHS and NJHS chapters collect nearly eight million pounds of food every year. Blood drives, completed by more than 16% of survey respondents, collected just under 100 pints of blood per chapter, on average

Student Programs By The Numbers



1.9 MILLION
HONOR SOCIETY AND
STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

33,873

HONOR SOCIETY CHAPTERS
AND STUDENT COUNCILS

Student Giving By The Numbers



**LOCALLY, NASC,
NHS, AND NJHS
CONTRIBUTE AN AVERAGE OF
\$26,000
THROUGH SERVICE PROJECTS.**



\$4.5 MILLION
**REPORTED CHARITABLE GIVING BY
HONOR SOCIETIES AND STUDENT COUNCILS**

(up 4.5% from 2013). If these figures are expanded out to the total membership of the honor societies nationwide, they translate into annual collections of nearly 380,000 pints of blood every year.

The student council (NASC) advisers were also asked how many hours their students contributed toward school improvement and school spirit-building activities. This year they reported more than 302,773 hours dedicated to school improvement. There is no doubt that these activities went a long way toward improving school climate, and when combined with the even larger volume of service activities reported by student councils this year, provided multiple opportunities for student growth and leadership development in schools.

National Impact. If these results are typical of student councils and honor societies throughout the country, these three organizations, with a combined membership of 33,873 schools representing more than 1.9 million high school and middle level youth, have the potential of raising more than \$333 million each year

through direct contributions and hours of service. This figure, approaching a third of a billion dollars, does not take into account the dozens of other national school-based student organizations in secondary schools that also dedicate their members to service projects.

Local Impact. At the local level, schools with active NASC, NHS, or NJHS organizations on campus contributed an average of more than \$26,000 to their schools and communities through service projects during the 2013–2014 school year. Principals and school boards should be proud of the great work being accomplished by their student leaders. Activity advisers, who make great efforts to manage these groups and recognize their accomplishments, are to be commended for their leadership roles in these projects. We should all be proud of this aspect of student achievement taking place in our schools.

“Each year, I am amazed at the amount of time and service that student leaders give to others,” said Ann Postlewaite, NASSP director of student programs. “The hours of service and dollars and items collected for communities around the world continue to grow each year. Student leaders, with the support of their advisers and principals, are making a difference for so many—and they are challenging others to make a difference as well. I commend student leaders for their hard work and caring.”

In addition to the impact of service activities on schools and communities, the young people involved in these activities also benefit personally from participation. The hard work, planning, and perseverance guided by a sense of caring and a commitment to helping others builds new skills and values in each young person engaged in service.

The National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, and the National Association of Student Councils are programs of NASSP (the National Association of Secondary School Principals). For more information, visit www.nhs.us, www.njhs.us, www.nasc.us, and www.nassp.org. © 2014 NASSP.

Data compiled and extrapolated from the NASC, NHS, and NJHS annual adviser surveys completed in the spring of 2014. Jeff Sherrill and David Cordts, survey coordinators. 8.5.14



NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY AND NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY



1.6 MILLION
STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN
NHS & NJHS ACTIVITIES



NHS & NJHS CHAPTERS
ARE IN 94 COUNTRIES

26,000

NHS & NJHS CHAPTERS
IN ALL 50 STATES



CHAPTERS REPORTED
3,309,690
HOURS OF SERVICE
TO THE COMMUNITY



ADVISERS
REPORTED COLLECTING
\$2,983,648
IN CHARITABLE GIVING

CHAPTERS COLLECTED
ON AVERAGE





NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT COUNCILS



361,000

STUDENTS PARTICIPATING
IN THEIR STUDENT COUNCILS



STUDENT COUNCILS REPORTED

302,773

HOURS CONTRIBUTED TO
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT &
SCHOOL SPIRIT-BUILDING ACTIVITIES



COUNCILS REPORTED

680,005

HOURS OF SERVICE
TO THE COMMUNITY



ADVISERS

REPORTED COLLECTING

\$1,544,516

IN CHARITABLE GIVING



3,724

STUDENT COUNCIL
FACEBOOK FANS



1,199

STUDENT COUNCIL
TWITTER FOLLOWERS