

CHS inducts 38 students for 2015

BY BRENDEN WEST

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NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

CLINTON — Every year, it's about the same four pillars: Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Character. And every year, Clinton High School inducts students into the National Honor Society who national selectors say embody the four pillars.

On Wednesday night, in front of parents, teachers and peers, 38 new members were inducted at CHS. Twenty-three of the inductees were juniors, meaning they will carry the honor for two years.

Selection for the program is rigorous, said 2015 sponsor Suzanne Schrader, a CHS counselor. The first criteria is that students maintain a 3.5-cumulative grade-point average. They must then be able to demonstrate how they embody the four pillars.

"This is part of the national protocol to make them members — going through an induction," Schrader said. "It's a big honor that says you're doing the right thing." Fifteen seniors were also inducted, making the day extra memorable for one in particular. Hours earlier, senior Evan Jackson signed his letter of intent to play baseball at Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls. Later, he joined peers in taking the NHS Pledge.

"It's pretty cool to know that you're in this alongside other top-notch kids across the country," Jackson said after the NHS induction. "To be in a group like this is really special. It's my last year and I'm glad I was able to be inducted." Four students — Ethan Lemke, Carson Peck, Nicholas Beckwith and Jessica Riojas — spoke about what it means to represent the four pillars. Schrader said Peck's message really struck a cord with her, as it demonstrated how "Service" isn't just about going above and beyond, but making it a daily routine.

After the ceremony, the new inductees and their families were invited to enjoy cake and punch in the CHS cafeteria. Among them was junior Jonathan Facio, who said the event did his family proud.

In addition to grades, Facio said he has been active in his three years at the school, participating in cross country, track, soccer and band. He said NHS selectors seek well-rounded students who are involved in their community.

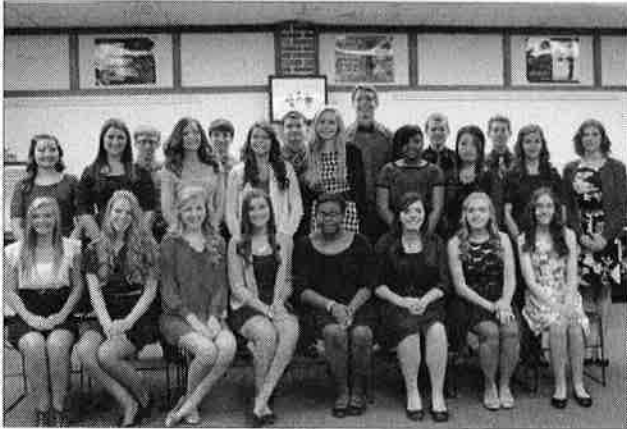
"For the people who were inducted today, it's about how they act every day," Facio said. "It's about extraordinary acts in an ordinary life." All of the students, added Schrader, demonstrate how exemplary youths participate at CHS daily. This year's numbers are typical of previous years, which Schrader said means CHS continually promotes young leaders.

"It means you're among the best and brightest," she said.

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The 2015 junior class of National Honor Society inductees at Clinton High School. Members are Mary Anderson, Seth Bolan, Gracie Buech, Noah Buikema, Hayle Calvin, Garrett Eggers, Jonathan

Facio, Emma Gettes, Quamii Hardwick, Elley Housenga, Emily Huston, Jennifer Lin, McKenzley Morris, Lexi Myli, Cole Pennock, MacKenzie Petersen, Katherine Pollpeter, Audrey Smith, Keaton Stoll, Bailey Tinderholt, Isabelle Tubbs, Amber Winkel and Jordan Woods.



Submitted photo



CHS junior Jonathan Facio joins peers and families following Wednesday night's National Honor Society Induction ceremony.

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