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# High school sees increase in National Honor students

BY HOWARD MCEWEN | ENQUIRER CONTRIBUTOR

**BELLEVUE** - Bellevue High School has seen an increase in the number of National Honor Society inductees in the last few years. This year, the school that serves the city's approximately 7,000 residents inducted 32 students into the society. This was up 18.5 percent from 2005.

This is also Bellevue's first year with a National Junior Honor Society, which inducts students in grades 6-9. Forty-eights students were inducted into that society.

"The National Honor Society lets colleges know that as a member you were required to maintain high academic standards as well as be an active member within your school and community," said Youth Service Center Director Kathy Riley.

ADVERTISEMENT One such student is senior Devan Smith, who has been accepted to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Bellevue has 195 students who are eligible for the society and 265 eligible for the junior society. To be inducted, students must show community involvement and have a 3.0 grade-point average and a 3.5 grade-point average by their senior year.

Riley has a simple explanation for the jump in inductees.

"An increase in expectations from all staff members," Riley said. "We are working very hard to increase the value of education within our community. Once students know the expectations, they strive to meet or exceed those requirements."

Riley sees Bellevue's relatively small size as an asset.

"The fact that Bellevue is a small school gives teachers and staff members the time to form relationships with students," said Riley. "This plays an important piece in being able to encourage them to achieve at their highest potential."

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