

# NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY BY LAWS

As a National Junior Honor Society member, you will be required to adhere to the by-laws of the organization. Please read the by-laws carefully, and when you have done so, please sign your name in the space provided indicating that you understand the by-laws and wish to be considered for NJHS. Failure to comply with the by-laws will result in dismissal from NJHS. Additionally, initial members are required to submit a \$35 non-refundable membership fee, which is used for the cost of Honors Night (May 16<sup>th</sup> 2012), the purchase of an NJHS pin, certificate and t-shirt to be worn at NJHS sponsored events. Those who are unable to pay the fee Please contact a faculty sponsor.

Since NJHS is based upon service, character, scholarship, leadership, and citizenship, the by-laws are reflective of the above-mentioned points.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** To be eligible for initial membership in the society, students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.7 or higher for their 7<sup>th</sup> grade academic year only. *Please note: 6<sup>th</sup> grade performance is not factored into the GPA requirement.* Students that are eligible for initial membership will be notified the first week of school their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. Students may also qualify for the society by earning a combined cumulative grade point average of 3.7 for their 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade years at the end of 1<sup>st</sup> semester of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. Students that are eligible for membership at this time will be notified during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.

Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or higher for each quarter of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. (Cumulative GPA includes all 4 quarters of 7<sup>th</sup> grade and each individual quarter of 8<sup>th</sup> grade.) If the cumulative GPA falls below a 3.7, students will be given a probationary period of one academic quarter to raise this cumulative GPA back to 3.7 or higher. If a student fails to attain the 3.7 two quarters in a row, the student will be dismissed from NJHS.

Additionally, members are required to write an essay choosing one quality from the following list of five: Character, Citizenship, Leadership, Scholarship or Service. Members will write a one page, double-spaced, typed essay describing a person who exemplifies the chosen quality. The essay will be collected at the March monthly NJHS meeting. Specific requirements for the essay will be explained in detail at the January monthly NJHS meeting. Any member unable to complete the required essay, must see a faculty sponsor for assistance. If a member does not complete the essay, he will be removed from NJHS.

**CITIZENSHIP:** At all times, members will be expected to be kind, courteous, and respectful to all staff members and peers. Before a student becomes a member of NJHS, faculty sponsors and administration will review the student's disciplinary record to determine eligibility. These will also be reviewed quarterly during their 8<sup>th</sup> Grade year. Inappropriate behavior in that regard may lead to probation or dismissal from NJHS. (Past inappropriate behavior does not make you ineligible; it does make a member probationary at the beginning of membership). For further explanation about discipline procedures please refer to the NJHS website.

**LEADERSHIP:** This characteristic should be displayed throughout the entire school year by participation in class activities, by behavior in the halls and lunchroom, by willingness to take part in various school sponsored activities and participation in our annual fundraiser for Barrington Area Giving Day .

**CHARACTER:** Character is based on soundness of moral judgment; integrity that comes from within. That means "thinking" before acting whether it is in or outside of the classroom. Cheating on homework assignments, taking credit for another student's work or cheating on a quiz or exam does not benefit the character of an "honor" society student. Deciding to cheat on academic endeavors will result in removal from NJHS.

**SERVICE:** Since NJHS is a service organization, members are expected to support the various activities of NJHS including fundraisers. The primary service project for NJHS is Barrington Area Giving Day. Members will be required to individually raise at least \$20 for this project. If an individual cannot raise this money, it is the responsibility of the NJHS member to make arrangements with the faculty sponsors for alternatives to meet this requirement. Members are required to do at least **20 hours** of approved community service that is school oriented and attend/participate in one District 220 Service Event (The structure of service hours and requirements are explained in detail at the August meeting). Service hours will be **due at the April NJHS monthly meeting**. Failure to complete service hours will result in the need for the member to arrange with the faculty sponsors for alternatives to meet this requirement.

Attendance at our monthly meetings is required. Inability to attend due to an absence on a meeting day will result in the need to see a faculty sponsor for information.

The above by-laws are certainly not meant to be ALL-inclusive; they are guidelines so you will know what is expected of you before you become a member. Remember that you never want to do anything that would discredit you or your school and put your continued membership in NJHS in jeopardy.

Mrs. Amy Suessen & Mr. Tim Maguire - NJHS Sponsors - WEB: <http://www.stationtechlab.com/NJHS.html>