

CMS National Junior Honor Society Constitution/ Bylaws

Article 1 Name and Purpose

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Cedartown Middle School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. The colors of the National Junior Honor Society are navy blue and white.

Section 2. The purpose of this organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to prompt leadership, to develop character, and to encourage citizenship in students of Cedartown Middle School.

Section 3. The NJHS shall be under the sponsorship and supervision of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), 1904 Association Drive, Reston, VA 20191.

Article 2 The Principal

Section 1. The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

Section 2. The principal shall annually appoint chapter advisors, who may serve consecutive terms.

Section 3. The principal shall be a part of the local school district appeal process for non-selection or dismissal cases.

Article 3 The Chapter Advisor

Section 1. The chapter advisor shall be responsible for the direct, day to day supervision of the chapter and act as a liaison between faculty, administration, students, and community.

Section 2. The chapter advisor shall maintain files on membership chapter history, activities, and financial transactions.

Section 3. The chapter advisor shall regularly review each member for compliance with society standards and obligations.

Section 4. The chapter advisor shall help the chapter officers understand and carry out their duties.

Article 4 Faculty Council

Section 1. The faculty council shall consist of at least four voting faculty members appointed annually by the principal. No principal may be included on the faculty council.

Section 2. The term of the faculty council shall be one year. Members may be appointed to consecutive terms.

Article 5 Membership

Section 1. Membership is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by a majority vote of the faculty council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, service, citizenship, and exemplary behavior.

Section 2. The faculty council shall reserve the right to award honorary membership to school officials, principals, teachers, NJHS advisors, or adults in recognition of outstanding service rendered to the school in keeping with the purpose of the National Junior Honor Society.

Section 3. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony, taking place in February of each school year.

Section 4. A National Junior Honor Society member who transfers from another school and brings a letter from the former principal or chapter advisor to the new school advisor shall be accepted automatically as a member in the new school's chapter. Transfer members must meet the new chapter's standards within one semester to retain membership. A discipline record will be acquired from the child's previous school.

Article 6 Selection of Members

Section 1. To be eligible for membership in the CMS NJHS, a student must maintain all As for one semester in all academic and connections classes.

Section 2. Any student who earns all A's for one semester must have no discipline/bus referrals for the current school year.

Section 3. Candidates are inducted at a special candle-lighting ceremony held once a year. Induction will be held after the first semester of each year.

Section 4. Invitations for new members will be given at the beginning of each school year and after the first semester.

Section 5. After being accepted, members must maintain an A average with no grade below a “B”, and a clean discipline record. Members who do not meet these requirements may be placed on probation or may be dismissed.

Section 6. A description of the selection procedure shall be published in an official school publication, which is widely available, in a timely fashion to all students and parents of the NJHS. The selection procedure shall be determined by the faculty council and shall be consistent with the rules and regulations of the National Junior Honor Society.

Section 7. The National Council and the NASSP shall not review the judgment of the faculty council regarding selection of individual members to local chapters.

Article 7

Requirements of Members/ Dues

Section 1. Each member must: participate in the initial induction ceremony, attend meetings, participate in the annual fundraiser, complete the required number of service projects, maintain overall “A” average with no grade below a “B” in all classes, and maintain a clean discipline record.

Section 2. Each member must pay \$10 dues each year. Each member must also purchase a club t-shirt.

Article 8

Probation/Dismissal

Section 1. The faculty council, in compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Junior Honor Society, will conduct a thorough investigation before any corrective action is taken.

Section 2. Members that fall below the academic standards shall be promptly warned (in writing) by the chapter advisor and given one quarter following their probation to correct their deficiency. If the deficiency is not corrected by the end of their probationary period, they will be notified (in writing) and their membership revoked. They will not be eligible for membership again until they have completed one full semester of academic work **and meet the requirements for initial membership**. In the case of flagrant or severe violation of school rules, or civil laws, a member will be dealt with according to Polk School District policies and will be permanently removed from NJHS.

Section 3. Grades and discipline records of members will be checked after each quarter.

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Section 4. Members who receive an “F” on their report card, fail to participate in the required number of service projects, or receive OSS will be dismissed upon review of the faculty council. Members who receive a discipline referral resulting in ISS will be placed on a probationary period of 1 semester. The faculty council reserves the right to determine dismissal on a case by case basis, according to the severity of the actions that led to the discipline referral.

Section 5. Members are placed on probation if they have less than an “A” average or a “C” on a report card. They will be notified in writing and will have a quarter to bring their grades up to an “A” average.

Section 6: Members dismissed for discipline are eligible for membership the following school year if they have had no discipline referrals and an A average.

Section 7. All final decisions are made by a vote of the faculty council.

Article 9 Nomination and Election of Officers

Section 1. The officers of this chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and historian.

Section 2. Officers shall be elected at a regular meeting of the CMS chapter during the first quarter of the year. Officers may be removed from office by the chapter advisor if it is deemed that they are doing an unsatisfactory job in performance of their duties or if they fail to maintain standards of membership. Officers are nominated by the faculty council and placed before the members for a vote.

Executive Committee

Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of the officers and chapter advisor.

Section 2. The executive committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its business meetings, make recommendations to the chapter, and determine and perform such other duties as are specified in the chapter bylaws.

Section 3. The executive committee shall have the responsibility for ensuring that chapter activities and procedures follow school policy and regulations.

Meetings

Section 1. The CMS NJHS chapter shall meet one time per month. It is the responsibility of each NJHS member to make arrangements to attend.

Section 2. The advisor or president as needed may call special meetings. Specially called meetings will be announced one week in advance.

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Section 3. Members who cannot attend a meeting must make arrangements to check in with an advisor to receive missed information.

Activities

Section 1. First year members must complete four service projects. Second year members must complete six service projects. Third year members must complete eight service projects. Service projects must provide at least two hours of volunteer service.

Section 2. Service projects must be logged on the sheet provided by the chapter advisor. Students must turn in completed service project sheets by the date given nearing the end of the year. Those students who do not turn in their service projects by this date will be dismissed. Students who are dismissed for failure to complete service projects will not be allowed membership again during their time at CMS.

Section 3. The CMS NJHS shall be involved in various fundraising projects. Monies obtained from these sales will be given to various charities and community organizations and used within the club for needs and supplies as decided on by the faculty council. The fundraising projects may include, but are not limited to: Candy sale, Valentine's Day dance, or other events sponsored by NJHS..

Bylaws amended March 3, 2025.