



# Medea Creek Middle School

*A National Blue Ribbon School, California Distinguished School*

*California Gold Ribbon School & California "Schools to Watch"*

1002 Doubletree Road. Oak Park, California 91377

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[www.opusd.org/mcms](http://www.opusd.org/mcms)

Dear 2023-24 Medea Creek NJHS Candidate,

Membership in the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is one of the highest honors that can be awarded to a middle-school student. Our chapter shall strive to bring the accomplishments of outstanding students to the attention of parents, teachers, peers, and the community. Our chapter shall strive to give practical meaning to the Society's standards of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. These five ideals are considered as the basis for selection. Unlike CJSF, no student is inducted simply because of a high academic average. The National Junior Honor Society strives to recognize the total student—one who excels in all of these areas. The standards used for selection are:

Scholarship: 3.75 cumulative average (current 8th graders this year only can have a 3.5 cumulative average just to continue the CJSF rules previously installed)

Leadership, service, character, and citizenship: as demonstrated by activities and teacher evaluations

Membership, however, is more than an honor. It is an ongoing responsibility and an obligation to continue to demonstrate those outstanding qualities that result in a student's selection.

Membership also carries a responsibility to the chapter. If our Medea Creek NJHS chapter is to be effective and meaningful, each member must become involved.

- Meeting attendance required (first Thursday of each month in G-5)
- 10 service hours per semester: there will be two deadlines; January 16 for the first 10 and the final one in early May
  - Students must select from the online pre-approved list or seek prior approval. This will always be posted online and updated.
  - Please note that service hours logged for the NJHS cannot be used for any other on-campus organization (ASB, WEB, etc). In other words, you cannot "double dip."
- Participate in our chapter's service group project(s): to be coordinated by students
- Participate in our chapter's fundraising efforts
- Pay a required \$5 yearly membership fee: Check payable to MCMS NJHS
  - This fee covers our school membership and awards/certificates
- Adhere to all due dates/deadlines, with the understanding that there are no late submissions
- Utilize our NJHS Google Classroom regularly



Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, service, leadership, character, or citizenship may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the Medea Creek chapter of the National Junior Honor Society.

We hope you will submit your candidate information packet so that the faculty council can evaluate your candidacy. Congratulations on your success thus far.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jantz, Principal

Mrs. Stein, Chapter Adviser

Ms. Lavigna, Asst. Chapter Adviser

# National Junior Honor Society (formerly CJSF)

## Information for Current 6th Graders

### Why Should I Join in 7th Grade?

- More than just an honor roll - honors students who demonstrate **scholarship, leadership, service, and character**.
- The goal of NJHS is to learn how to become a more effective leader and **give back** with a variety of service projects.
- A great way to make **friends**, focus on **personal growth**, and give back to the **community**.

#### Important

In order to participate in the National Junior Honor Society, you need to meet the following criteria:

- 3.75 GPA or higher
- Complete a NJHS Application Packet
- Write a "Demonstration of Interest Paragraph"
- Complete the Teacher Recommendation Form

### Important: Application Checklist

- ☐ **3.75 Cumulative GPA or Higher (all 4 quarters of 6th grade) and no N's or U's**
  - ☐ **Must include printed transcript**
- ☐ **Completed NJHS Candidate Application Packet**
  - Student and Parent Signatures Required
  - Demonstration of service learning during 6th grade year
    - FYI: 20 hours per school year can earn you a Panthers Make a Difference award (see MCMS Planner for details).
- ☐ **\$5 Membership Fee payable to MCMS NJHS**
- ☐ **Demonstration of Interest Paragraph (typed)**
- ☐ **Completed Teacher Recommendation Form**

Application window will open Fall 2024 and close within two weeks of posting.

Students can come by G-2 to obtain any needed paperwork.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Stein [@astein@opusd.org](mailto:astein@opusd.org) or Ms. Lavigna [clavigna@opusd.org](mailto:clavigna@opusd.org)



# **NJHS at Medea Creek Middle School**

## **Selection Procedure Description**

The National Junior Honor Society chapter of Medea Creek Middle School is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization. Membership is open to those students who meet the required standards in five areas of evaluation: scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. Students are selected for membership by majority vote of our faculty council, including Mrs. Stein and Ms. Lavigna, which bestows this honor upon qualified students on behalf of the faculty of our school each fall/spring, depending on grade level.

Students in grades seven and eight are eligible for membership. For the scholarship criterion, a student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or better on a 4.0 scale and no N's or U's. Each fall, those students who meet this criterion are invited to complete a Candidate Application Packet that provides the faculty council with information regarding the candidate's leadership and service.

To assess a candidate's leadership, the faculty council evaluates leadership roles.

To assess a candidate's service, the faculty council evaluates 10 hours of documented service-learning hours (see application packet).

To evaluate a candidate's character, the faculty council uses two forms of input. First, school disciplinary records are reviewed. Second, members of the faculty are solicited for input regarding their professional reflections on a candidate's service activities, character, and leadership.

All Candidate Application Packets are carefully reviewed by the faculty council to determine membership. A majority vote of the council is necessary for selection. Candidates are notified regarding selection or non selection.

Following notification, a formal induction ceremony is held at school to recognize all the newly selected members. Once inducted, new members are required to maintain the same level of performance (or better) in all four criteria that led to their selection. When the information becomes available, dates will be posted online and in Google Classroom.

Information awareness/deadlines are the responsibility of the applying student, not the parent.

# Medea Creek Middle School's Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society

**Directions:** Please complete all sections. Type or print all information and submit it by \_\_\_\_\_ (date to be determined in the fall) at 3:00 PM. No late applications will be accepted. Do not be modest. All information will be used by the faculty council to assist with the fair consideration of your candidacy during the selection process. Completion of this form does not guarantee selection. Should you have questions about this form, please contact Mrs. Stein @[astein@opusd.org](mailto:astein@opusd.org) or Ms. Lavigna [clavigna@opusd.org](mailto:clavigna@opusd.org)

## I. Administrative/Demographic Information

Name (First and Last): \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

School Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative GPA from 6th Grade \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Required printed transcript that shows your courses/GPA; staple to the back of this application)**

Were you disciplined for your behavior in 6th grade? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Not Sure

**\*\*If anything other than NO, please explain:** \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Leadership Positions

List up to 3 elected or appointed leadership positions held the last couple of years in school, community, or work activities. Only those positions in which you were responsible for directing or motivating others should be included. Examples: elected officer for the student body, class, or club; committee chairperson; team captain; newspaper editor; work area manager; or other community leader. Please include the name of the adult responsible for supervising your leadership in each position.

Activity	Year (5,6)	Accomplishments and Adult Responsible


**III. Service Activities in 6th Grade**

List up to five service-learning activities in which you have participated during 6th grade. These can be individual or group service projects done either in or out of school. Generally speaking, service activities are those that are done for or on behalf of others (not including immediate family members) for which no compensation (monetary or other) has been given. Please ask an adult supervisor who can verify your participation in each activity to sign on the appropriate line, and also list the estimated number of hours you invested while performing this service.

Activity	Date(s) of Service	# of Hours	Adult Supervisor:Printed Name and Signature

#### IV. Other Activities in 6th Grade

List up to five other school or community-based activities (*not* noted above) in which you have participated during your 6th grade year. Include clubs, teams, religious groups, Boy or Girl Scouts, musical groups, etc., and any significant accomplishments in each.

Activity and Significant Accomplishments	Date(s) of Participation	Adult Sponsor Printed Name and Signature

#### V. Recognition and Awards: In the last two years

Though not a specific criterion for membership, please list below up to three honors or recognition that you have received that support your candidacy for membership in the National Junior Honor Society at Medea Creek.

Description	Year (5, 6)	Name of Adult Sponsor


**VI: Demonstration of Interest**

Please type one paragraph (5-8 sentences) explaining why you are interested in becoming a member of the National Junior Honor Society. What are you hoping to get out of being a member, and why would you be an important member of the society? Include your typed paragraph (**typed**) in your application packet behind the printed transcript.

**VII: Teacher Recommendation**

During the first two weeks of your 7th grade year: Please have three (LA/SS, Math/Science, Elective or PE) of your **sixth-grade teachers** sign the Teacher Recommendation Form. Include this form in your application packet. Students, please be considerate by requesting teacher recommendations at a convenient time.

TEACHERS: If you would recommend the candidate, according to outstanding citizenship, character, leadership, and service – without reservation, please sign in the space below.

Name of Candidate (first and last): \_\_\_\_\_

- 1. I recommend this candidate, without reservation, for membership in the NJHS.

Printed Name of Teacher	Teacher Signature

Name of Course

- 2. I recommend this candidate, without reservation, for membership in the NJHS.

Printed Name of Teacher	Teacher Signature

Name of Course



3. I recommend this candidate, without reservation, for membership in the NJHS.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Teacher

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Course

### **VIII: Signatures**

I understand that completing this form does not guarantee selection to the National Junior Honor Society at Medea Creek Middle School. I attest that the information presented here is complete and accurate. If selected, I agree to abide by the standards and guidelines of the chapter and to fulfill all of my membership obligations (see documentation) to the best of my ability.

Student Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the information provided by my son/daughter on this form and can verify that it is true, accurate, and complete.

Printed Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return completed Application Packet, along with \$5 membership fee, in-person to Mrs. Stein's room, G-2 or Ms. Lavigna in G-5.**

**\*\*Please note that late and/or incomplete application packets will not be accepted. Even if you are absent on the due date, the application must be submitted on time.**

**\*\*Have a parent drop off, scan/email until you return to school, etc.**



