



Constitution and By-laws
NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY
LURAY MIDDLE SCHOOL
2019-2020



ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Luray Middle School Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society.

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

Section 3. The NJHS of Luray Middle School shall be under the sponsorship and supervision of the National Junior Honor Society of Secondary Schools (NJHS).

ARTICLE II: 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 a member of the faculty as chapter adviser (sponsor).

ARTICLE III: THE CHAPTER ADVISOR

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

Section 2. The chapter adviser shall maintain files on membership, chapter history, activities, and financial transactions. The chapter advisor (sponsor) shall send an annual report to the National Office.

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

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

Section 5. The chapter adviser shall be an ex-officio, nonvoting, member of the Faculty Council.

Section 6. The chapter adviser shall be a member of the faculty, appointed by the principal, and may serve consecutive terms.

Section 7: The Advisor can develop and revise, when necessary, all chapter procedures for selection, discipline, and dismissal of members, all of which must remain in compliance with the national guidelines.

ARTICLE IV: THE FACULTY COUNCIL

Section 1. The Faculty Council shall consist of five or six voting faculty members appointed annually by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be an ex-officio, nonvoting, member of the Faculty Council. This council will remain anonymous to students and parents.

Section 2. The term of the Faculty Council shall be one year. Members may be appointed for consecutive terms if they wish.

Section 3. The Faculty Council shall meet once a year to review the applications to the chapter select members, and to consider non-selection.

Section 4. The Faculty Council can develop and revise, when necessary, all chapter procedures for selection, discipline, and dismissal of members, all of which must remain in compliance with the national guidelines.

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership into the NJHS of Luray Middle School is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by a Faculty Council and is based on outstanding scholarship, leadership, service, character, and citizenship. Once selected, members have a responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

Section 2. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony. There will be ONE induction ceremony per school year. Students who do not attend the induction ceremony are not active members, and must wait until the next ceremony to become an active member.

Section 4. An NJHS member whom transfers to another school and brings a letter from the principal or chapter adviser to the new school 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 in order to retain membership.

Section 5. Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership in NJHS or NHS, or its benefits.

ARTICLE VI: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. To be eligible for membership the candidate must be a member of the seventh or eighth grade at Luray Middle School.

Section 2. Candidates must have a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.75 from the previous academic year to be eligible to apply, and this does **NOT** guarantee membership.

Section 3. Candidates shall then be evaluated on the basis of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship.

Section 3. DESCRIPTION OF SELECTION PROCESS - Prior to selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. Students who are eligible scholastically ("candidates") shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the application packet, which consists of "Student Activity Form", two teacher recommendations, and an essay for further consideration for selection.
- c. The faculty council shall also consider attendance and discipline when determining membership.
- d. With the assistance of a matrix and point system, the faculty council will score a variety of factors to determine membership which are as follows: attendance, the "Student Activity Form," two teacher recommendations, an essay, and behavior.
- e. Candidates who do not turn in the completed application by the set due date are ineligible for membership for that academic year.

Section 4. The selection of each member to the chapter shall be by a majority vote of the faculty council, consisting of five to six faculty members. The chapter advisor shall be a non-voting, ex-officio member of the faculty council.

Section 5. A description of the selection procedure as part of the by-laws (see above) shall be available to all students and parents of the school. The selection procedure and matrix will remain confidential, and will not be shared with parents or students.

Section 6. The National Council and the NASSP shall not review the judgment of the faculty council regarding selection of individual members to local chapters.

Section 7. The selection of new active members shall be held once a year.

Section 8. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

Section 9. Once selected and inducted, all members are expected to maintain the standards by which they were selected and maintain all obligations of membership. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.5 and complete chapter responsibilities as given by their chapter sponsor.

Section 10. An active member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of his or her membership and signed by the principal or chapter advisor.

Section 11. An active member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter upon presentation of a letter signed by his/her former principal certifying membership.

ARTICLE VII: DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL

Section 1. The procedure of dismissal shall be determined by the chapter advisor and/or faculty council in compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Junior Honor Society.

Section 2. Members who fall below the standards, which were the basis for their selection shall be promptly warned in writing by the chapter adviser and given a reasonable amount of time to correct the deficiency. Except in the case of flagrant violation of school rules or civil laws, in which case a member does not necessarily have to be warned. Members may accept the probationary period, or choose to terminate their membership at that time.

Section 3. The chapter advisor shall determine when an individual has exceeded a reasonable number of warnings.

A. DESCRIPTION OF DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

1. Referral write-ups (may be reviewed on a case-by-case basis)

- a. 1st offense: Written warning and parent notification
- b. 2nd offense: Revocation of membership
- c. Any Flagrant violation (fighting, drugs, stealing, etc.) resulting in suspension: automatic revocation of membership

2. Failure to meet NJHS requirements (reviewed by sponsor)

- a. 1st offense: Written warning and parent notification with a set goal to meet within a given timeframe.
- b. 2nd offense: Revocation of membership for members who fall below the GPA requirement and/or fall below the minimum requirements of attendance, participation, and service hours.
- c. 7th grade members who do not fulfill the individual service requirement will be expected to complete their service hours during the first semester of their 8th grade

year or lose their membership. This is in addition to their 8th grade requirements.

- d. 8th grade members who do not fulfill the individual service requirements will be expected to complete their service hours during the first semester of their 9th grade year, or lose their membership.

Section 4. A member who has been dismissed may appeal the decision to the school principal.

Section 5. The National Council and the NASSP shall hear no appeals in dismissal cases.

ARTICLE VIII – OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary. An additional historian/public relations officer may be added at the discretion of the chapter advisor.

Section 2. Student officers shall be elected at the beginning of each school year. All active members are eligible to run for a position as an officer. All active members of the chapter are eligible to vote.

Section 3. A majority vote shall be necessary to elect any officer of this chapter. If the vote does not yield a majority, a second vote shall be taken of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Section 4. A description of each officer’s duties shall be established by the advisor.

ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS

Section 1. Chapter meetings will be held a minimum of once a month during school and will be run by the chapter adviser, chapter president, and vice president.

Section 2. Special meetings called by the chapter adviser may also be held at anytime.

Section 3. Members must attend all meetings unless their absence is excused due to an illness or other academic commitment.

Section 4. The Secretary will take notes of each meeting.

ARTICLE X - ACTIVITIES

Section 1. Members shall individually or as a group participate in chapter service projects throughout the year.

Section 2. The chapter advisor (sponsor) will organize, facilitate, and track individual and group service projects as well as determine the amount of time reasonable for required service hours.

Section 3. These projects shall have the following characteristics: fulfill a need within the school or community, have the support of the administration and the chapter adviser, as well as be well-planned, organized, and executed.

Section 4. The chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.

ARTICLE XI – DUES

Section 1. Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$0.00.

Adopted September 22, 2014, Luray Middle School, National Junior Honor Society by the faculty council with consent by the principal, Ms. Kelly Lawton.