

MIDLAND SCHOOL #1 NJHS By-Laws
Adopted September 2010
Revised September 2020

**The National Junior Honor Society
Midland School #1
Rochelle Park, New Jersey**

Chapter By-Laws

The by-laws of the National Junior Honor Society are a constitutional mandate (Article XVI). Therefore, be it known that *these* by-laws conform to the guidelines and regulations of the National Constitution of the National Junior Honor Society of Secondary Schools.

Article I: Name and Purpose

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the Midland Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society of Midland School, Rochelle Park, New Jersey.

Section 2: The purpose of the organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, to further develop character, and to encourage citizenship in our school.

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 Chapter Advisor, Co-Advisor, and the Faculty Council 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. The Principal's decisions are final.

Article III: The Chapter Advisors (2)

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

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

Section 3: The Chapter Advisors shall regularly review each member for compliance with Society standards and obligations.

Section 4: The Chapter Advisors shall help the Chapter Officers understand and carry out their duties.

Article IV: Faculty Council

Section 1: The Faculty Council shall consist of at least five voting members appointed annually by the Principal. No Principal or Assistant Principal may be included on the Faculty Council.

Section 2: The Chapter Advisor(s) shall be ex-officio, non-voting, sixth member(s) of the Faculty Council.

Section 3: The Faculty Council shall be responsible for the selection of candidates for membership.

Section 4: The Faculty Council shall hear appeals in cases of dismissal.

Section 5: The Faculty Council shall meet at least once a year to select members and to consider dismissal, non-selection, and warning cases.

Article V: Membership

Section 1: Membership is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by a Faculty Council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, service, and citizenship.

Section 2: Candidates become members when inducted at a special annual ceremony.

Section 3: A National Junior Honor Society member who transfers from another school and brings a letter from the former Principal or Chapter Advisor to the Midland School Chapter Advisor(s) shall be accepted automatically as a member of the Midland Chapter. Transfer members must meet the Chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership.

Section 4: Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.

Article VI: Selection of Members

Section 1: Candidates must be in the second semester of seventh grade or eighth grade at Midland School. Candidates must have been in attendance at the school the equivalent of one semester.

Section 2: Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of at least a 3.75. For current seventh-grade students, a cumulative grade point average from sixth grade and the first semester of seventh grade is required. For eighth-grade students, it shall be based upon the cumulative grade point average from sixth grade, the cumulative grade-point average from seventh grade, and the first semester of eighth grade. Candidates shall then be evaluated by the Faculty Council on the basis of service, leadership, character, and citizenship. Candidates will fill out an application in order to be considered for membership.

Section 3: Prior to selection, the following shall occur:

a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholarship eligibility.

- b. Students who are eligible scholastically (“candidates”) shall be notified and asked to complete an application for further consideration.
- c. The Faculty Council will be required to complete a blind first-round evaluation of submitted applications. Upon completion of the first round review, Chapter Advisors will reduce the list of candidates by half based on first-round rubric scores. Each list (one from seventh grade and one from eighth grade) will be reduced by half. After the round one elimination, candidates names will be revealed
- d. The entire faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be eligible using an evaluation form provided by the chapter.
- e. After all documentation has been received, the Faculty Council will meet to review all application material, faculty evaluations, and discipline records in order to determine membership.

Section 4: The selection of each member to the Chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council after reviewing all information concerning the candidate.

Section 5: 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 6: An active member of the National Junior Honor Society from another district who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this Chapter. The Faculty Council shall grant to the transferring member one semester to attain the membership requirement and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain his or her membership.

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

Article VII: Dismissal

Section 1: The Faculty Council, in compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Junior Honor Society, shall determine the procedure of dismissal.

Section 2: If a member's cumulative grade-point average falls below a 3.75, he/she will be given a written warning and time period for improvement. If the cumulative grade-point average remains below the standard at the end of the warning, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council which may include dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3: It is expected that National Junior Honor Society members will maintain the highest standards of behavior. Behavior referrals resulting from any violation of school code/policy are subject to review by the Faculty Council each quarter. Members can be dismissed from the National Junior Honor Society if the Faculty Council deems that the degree or frequencies of such referrals are inappropriate to the integrity of the National Junior Honor Society.

Section 4: Violation of the **law or** school regulation can result in dismissal of a member. These violations include but are not limited to, stealing, assault, destruction of property,

cheating, truancy, possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities.

Section 5: An offender of the school conduct code (these infractions include the use of profanity, bullying, failure to comply, unexcused absence, excessive tardiness), will receive a written warning notification. At this point, the Faculty Council, student, or parent will request a conference. If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be dismissed.

Section 6: In all cases of pending dismissal, a member shall have the right to a hearing before the Faculty Council. (*Note: This hearing is required and is considered "due process" for all members*)

Section 7: A member who has been dismissed may appeal the decision of the Faculty Council to the school Principal. The Principal's decision is final.

Section 8: The National Council and the NASSP shall hear no appeals in dismissal cases.

Article VIII: Nomination and Election of Officers

Section 1: The officers of this chapter shall be 4 board members, depending on nominations and election results.

Section 2: Board members shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Midland School National Junior Honor Society chapter. The time, methods, and procedure for the nomination will be determined at the beginning of each school year by the members' vote.

Section 3: In the event that membership numbers fall below five (5) per grade, then meetings are conducted by the co-advisors and members' board Duties are waived.

Article IX: Board Member Duties and Responsibilities

Section 1: The officers and their duties are as follows:

President - The President conducts the meetings.

Vice President - The Vice President of the Board serves in the absence of the president; other duties as directed.

Secretary - The Secretary keeps the attendance for each meeting. He or she also records the summary of the meetings and attends to clerical duties.

Historian - The Historian writes summary articles on affairs of the society to report to the school and town newspaper.

Section 2: Members interested in running for office should complete an officer application.

Article X: Executive Committee

Section 1: The executive committee shall consist of the board members of the Chapter and the Chapter Advisor(s).

Section 2: The executive committee shall have a general supervision of the affairs of the Chapter between its business meetings, making recommendations to the Chapter, and planning regular meetings.

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

Article XI: Meetings

Section 1: The Midland Chapter shall hold regular meetings. Members are required to be present at every scheduled meeting, unless absent from school. If they notify Co-advisors, members may be excused from NJHS meetings when they are involved in Co-occurring extracurricular activities (chorus, play rehearsal, sports, etc)

Section 2: Special meetings approved by the executive committee may be called by the Chapter Advisor.

Article XII: Activities

Section 1: The Chapter shall determine one or more service projects for each year.

Section 2: All members will participate in one service project at Midland School.

Section 3: This project shall have the following characteristics:

Fulfill a need within the school or community.

Have the support of the administration and faculty.

Be appropriate and educationally defensible.

Be well-planned, organized, and executed.

Section 4: Each member shall complete five (5) minimum to ten (10) hours of service each year. (Individual Member Project)

Section 5: The Chapter shall publicize its project in a positive manner. (Joint Chapter Project)

Article XIII: Amendments

These by-laws will be reviewed annually by the Chapter Advisers and members.

By-laws will be available and made public in the main office for parents and the public to pursue when requested.

NOTE: BY-LAWS MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH THE NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY CONSTITUTION AND HANDBOOK.