

## **How can I be part of the National Junior Honor Society?**

If you meet the criteria below, **you will receive an application for membership in April of your seventh or eighth grade year:**

The National Junior Honor Society is an organization that promotes recognition for students who reflect outstanding accomplishments in the areas of scholarship, character, leadership, citizenship, and service. NJHS is an extracurricular organization that supports the educational goals of the school and provides significant learning experiences, especially in the area of service. Thousands of chartered schools each year must adopt and follow the NJHS Constitution. The NJHS Constitution is the primary source for policy information regarding initial membership, dismissal of membership, maintaining membership, service hours, and projects.

### **Step #1- GPA 3.5, Good Character, and Involvement**

We review academic records and discipline reports to determine those seventh and eighth grade students who are eligible for membership; i.e. those students who have a **grade point of 3.5 or higher for first, second, and third quarter of the school year** and have **fewer than three behavior infractions (office detentions)** are considered for membership. Once you become a member, you must maintain a GPA of 3.5 or higher each quarter and demonstrate appropriate behavior.

### **Step #2- Eligibility Packet**

The NJHS Advisors, Mrs. Helmin and Mrs. Kruszynski will notify students who have received a 3.5 GPA for the first, second, and third quarters (approximately the second week in April). At this time, students will receive an informational packet and the NJHS Candidate Essay prompt. **We will not accept late essays.** The essay will provide information about each student's accomplishments in the areas of service, leadership, citizenship, and character. Based on the information given by the candidate, selections will be determined to the Palos South Middle School chapter of NJHS.

### **Step #3- Character Evaluation and Discipline Report**

Any candidate **reported of cheating, suspended, or has received three office detentions during the school year** will automatically be ineligible or dismissed from membership.

### **Step #4- Induction**

Leadership, service, citizenship, and character play an important role in the NJHS; therefore, we will review each candidate carefully. Candidates meeting all of the above criteria will be eligible for induction into the Palos Middle School chapter. The induction ceremony will occur in May.

### **Step #5- Service Hours**

Newly inducted seventh graders will be required to complete 20 hours of service as eighth graders. **Service hours do not start until eighth grade for inducted seventh graders.** Service hours will be due the last day of third quarter. Failure to complete this obligation will result in dismissal from the organization.

**Newly inducted eighth graders must complete 5 hours of service by the end of the school year.**