

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY GEORGE WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL BYLAWS

ARTICLE I Name and Purpose

- Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be the George Washington Middle School Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society.
- Section 2. The purpose of this organization shall be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and citizenship and to encourage the development of character in all students of George Washington Middle 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 adviser, 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 III The Chapter Adviser

- 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 adviser shall complete the annual survey and submit it to the national office.
- Section 3.** The chapter adviser shall regularly review each member for compliance with Society 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, sixth member of the Faculty Council and shall facilitate all meetings of the council.
- Section 6.** The chapter adviser shall be a member of the faculty, appointed annually by the principal, and may serve consecutive terms.

ARTICLE IV
The Faculty Council

- Section 1. The Faculty Council shall consist of five (5) voting faculty members appointed annually by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be an ex officio, nonvoting, sixth member of the Faculty Council. No principal or assistant principal may be included on the Faculty Council.
- Section 2. The term of the Faculty Council shall be one year.
- Section 3. The Faculty Council shall meet at least once a year to review the procedures of the chapter, select members, and consider non-selection, dismissal, other disciplinary actions, and warning cases.
- Section 4. The Faculty Council will develop and revise, when necessary, all chapter procedures for selection, discipline, and dismissal of members, all of which must remain in compliance with this Constitution and NJHS policies. Members may be appointed to consecutive terms.

ARTICLE V
Selection of Members

- Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be based upon scholarship, service, leadership, citizenship, and character.
- Section 2. To be eligible for election to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period equivalent to 2 quarters in this school.
- Section 3. Candidates eligible for candidacy to the chapter must be members of the 7th grade class. Candidates eligible for candidacy to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 (based on a 4 point scale).
- Section 4. Students eligible for candidacy to the chapter will be provided with a candidate form. Candidate must complete candidate forms showing how they demonstrate the five principles of the National Junior Honor Society, provide a list of activities (school and extra-curricular) and two recommendation/evaluation forms from core teachers as part of the selection process. A review of disciplinary records will be performed for students applying for membership.
- Section 5. The selection of members to this chapter of the National Junior Honor Society shall be by a majority vote of the faculty council, consisting of five voting faculty members appointed annually by the principal. No principal may be included on the faculty council.
- 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 school. 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.

ARTICLE VI Membership

- Section 1. Membership in the George Washington Middle School National Junior Honor Society is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection to NJHS is a privilege, not a right. Selection for membership by the faculty council is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, service, and citizenship. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.
- Section 2. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony. Prospective members are not members until they have been properly inducted. Only circumstances such as illness or personal emergency will be considered as a reason for missing an induction. An informal induction will be held for the candidate at a later date should an illness or personal emergency arise.
- Section 3. A National Junior Honor Society member who transfers to another school and brings a letter from the former principal or chapter adviser to George Washington Middle 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 (2 quarters) in order to retain membership.
- Section 4. An active member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of membership and signed by the principal.

ARTICLE VII Discipline and Dismissal

- Section 1. Members who fall below the academic standards of maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.5 each quarter shall be promptly warned in writing by the chapter adviser and be given an quarter (a total of 9 weeks) to again meet the scholastic requirements.
- Section 2. Members who fail to meet the standards of character, leadership, service, and citizenship, shall be promptly warned in writing by the adviser and be given a reasonable amount of time to correct the deficiency, except that in the case of flagrant violation of school rules or civil laws a member does not necessarily have to be warned.
- Section 3. Members must attend all regular and special meetings. After two unexcused absences, the member will receive a written warning. After the third unexcused absence, the member maybe considered for dismissal.
- Section 4. Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.
- Section 5. In all cases of impending dismissal, a member shall have a right to a hearing before the faculty council.
- Section 6. For minor offenses, faculty council may also suspend certain chapter privileges or request that the student receive special counseling.
- Section 7. The chapter adviser shall periodically review the standing of members for compliance with Society standards.

ARTICLE VIII Officers

- Section 1. The officers of this chapter shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Parliamentarian, Historian, and Attendance Recorder.
- Section 2. A majority of votes cast shall be necessary to elect any officers of this chapter.
- Section 3. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of this chapter.
- Section 4. The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the president.
- Section 5. The Secretary shall keep minutes of meetings.
- Section 6. The Attendance Recorder shall keep attendance at all meetings and shall notify the chapter adviser of any member having two unexcused absences.
- Section 7. The Parliamentarian collects and records service hours and shall notify the chapter adviser of any member missing service hours.
- Section 8. The Historian updates the George Washington National Junior Honor Society Chapter website, advertises and records events of the chapter.

ARTICLE IX Meetings

- Section 1. The regular meetings of this chapter shall be held as needed during the school year on days designated by the chapter adviser.
- Section 2. The officers of the chapter shall be elected at the beginning of the upcoming school year.
- Section 3. The chapter adviser may call special meetings.
- Section 4. All meetings shall be open meetings and shall be held under the sponsorship of the adviser.
- Section 5. There should be no more than two unexcused absences from regular scheduled meetings. Excused absences will be considered by the chapter adviser on the basis of doctor appointments, illnesses, funerals, other special emergency situations, or other school functions. Only two excused absences will be accepted for other school functions.

ARTICLE X Activities

- Section 1. Each chapter shall determine one or more service projects for the year.
- Section 2. All members shall regularly participate in these projects. These projects shall have the following characteristics: fulfill a need within the school or community; have the support of the administration and the faculty; be appropriate and educationally defensible; and be well planned, organized, and executed.
- Section 3. Each member must perform **25** individual service hours (four hours during the summer prior to your eighth grade year, and four hours per quarter during your 8th grade year). Failure to complete these hours will result in non-recognition of membership at any award ceremonies.

Section 4. Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in a service project that reflects his or her particular talents and interests. This is in addition to the major service projects to which all members contribute.

Section 5. Each member shall be asked to pay a local chapter due of **\$20 per member**. (Chapter dues cover George Washington National Junior Honor Society graduation medal and membership certificate.) Membership will not be denied because of a student's inability to pay.

ARTICLE XI Official Insignia

Section 1. This organization shall have an official emblem selected by the National Council. The emblem shall be uniform.

Section 2. Each active or honorary member in good standing with the chapter shall be entitled to wear this emblem.

Section 3. Any member who resigns or is dismissed shall not be entitled to wear the emblem.

Section 4. The motto of the National Junior Honor Society shall be "**Light Is the Symbol of Truth.**"

Section 5. The official colors of the National Junior Honor Society shall be **Blue and White.**

Section 6. The official flower of the National Junior Honor Society shall be the **White Rose.**

ARTICLE XII Amendments

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the chapter, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given to members at least one month prior to the vote. The exceptions are Articles III and IV, which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the principal.

Section 2. Bylaws and amendments must be consistent with the constitution of the National Honor Society.