

NATIONAL JUNIOR
HONOR SOCIETY (NJHS)

AND

THE WMS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

2024-2025

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

- The National Junior Honor Society is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding middle school students.
- NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship and character.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Applications will be posted on the website for 7th and 8th grade students following the end of the 2nd marking quarter. Students who meet academic standards are encouraged to apply.
- **Deadline** for the completed application is **Friday, February 28, 2025. NO EXCEPTIONS. We will NOT accept late applications.**
- Pursuant to NJHS bylaws, a panel of WMS faculty members will serve as the WMS NJHS Faculty Council and review all applications.

NJHS ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Overall average of 91.5 or above for the school year.
- NJHS will review grades as shown below:
 - For 7th graders who apply in spring, the final 6th grade report card and first two quarters of 7th grade
 - For 8th graders who apply in spring, the final 6th grade report card, the final 7th grade report card, and first two quarters of 8th grade
 - Grades will **not** be rounded.
 - ALL grades count toward your average, including exploratory courses.

COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENTS FOR NJHS

- A total of 15 approved hours must be completed, with documentation, by the application deadline.
- Service hours CAN be combined across all grade levels in order to total 15.
- Students must go through existing community service protocols for approval and documentation of hours.
- Parents are encouraged to review their child's documented community service hours via the parent portal – these are updated once per quarter.

ADDITIONAL NJHS REQUIREMENTS

- Records of behavior
- Attendance
- Leadership
- Citizenship
- Participation in school and community activities

WHAT NEXT?

- ❖ Applications will be reviewed by a committee of WMS faculty members
- ❖ There will be a NJHS induction ceremony in May 2025.
- ❖ In 8th grade, current members will be required to:
 - attend meetings
 - plan and participate in WMS NJHS programs
 - maintain their status with regard to academics and citizenship
- ❖ NJHS members will be recognized at the WMS Moving Up Ceremony at the conclusion of 8th grade

WOODMERE MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

In addition to receiving recognition at graduation for NJHS, all students, regardless of academic achievement, are eligible to receive recognition for community service.

HOW DOES THE SCHOOL ACKNOWLEDGE THE COMPLETION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS?

- Students completing the expected amount of community service hours will be honored on the WMS “Wall of Service.”
- In addition, 8th grade students who have completed the expected number of hours on each grade level will receive a blue/white cord of honor at the WMS Moving Up Ceremony.

HOW MANY HOURS AM I EXPECTED TO COMPLETE EACH YEAR?

- Students are expected to complete community service as outlined below:
 - Grade 6 – minimum of 3 hours
 - Grade 7 – minimum of 7 hours
 - Grade 8 – minimum of 10 hour
- **YOU MAY NOT MAKE UP HOURS ANY LONGER**

WHAT IS AND/OR IS NOT COMMUNITY SERVICE?

- Community service is not something for which you are paid.
- Community service is a volunteer activity, outside of school hours, that benefits the community.
- Even though you may not be paid for working around your home, these tasks are not considered community service.

HOW CAN I BE SURE SOMETHING WILL COUNT AS COMMUNITY SERVICE?

- All community service activities need **prior approval** from the WMS Community Service representative (Mrs. Mauriello).
- In addition, parent agreement is necessary before undertaking any community service activity.
- It is likely that hours undertaken without prior approval will not count toward WMS Community Service recognition.

PROCEDURES

1. Pick up or print out the “Community Service Pre-Approval / Notice of Intent” Form (#1). Forms are posted on the school website & Schoology Groups and are available in the office and the office and the library.
2. Fill out Pre-Approval Form #1 in its entirety. Make sure to get a parent signature.
3. Turn in Pre-Approval Form #1 to Mrs. Mauriello (Rm 107) or the office.
4. **Do not begin** your community service until you have received the form back signed as approved/dated by Mrs. Mauriello. Only then will you know that your hours will be approved.

PROCEDURES (CONT'D)

1. Once your approval form is returned to you signed/dated, then you can begin your community service.
2. Upon completion of your service, obtain the “Project Log and Reflection” Form #2.
3. Fill this out in its entirety with:
 - Supervisor feedback and signature
 - Hours completed
 - Parent Signature
 - Student feedback
4. Turn in to Form #2 to Mrs. Mauriello or the office.
5. Mrs. Mauriello will update your hours on the Portal if the form is filled out properly.

Pre-Approval Form #1

Click [here](#) for link!

Project Log and

Reflection Form #2

Click [here](#) for link!

WHAT CUTOFF DATES SHOULD STUDENTS BE AWARE OF?

- The cutoff date for the **completion** of community service is 5/22/25.
- The cutoff date for the **submission** of the Project Log and Reflection is 5/22/25.
- These cutoff dates are not flexible.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT ABOUT COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES?

- Opportunities will be announced and posted throughout the year in the Community Service Schoology Group.
- A great place to start is inquiring at local houses of worship or non-profit organizations. Students can also ask the advisor for their grade.
- Before volunteering, we recommend that you consider the following questions.
 - What issues matter most to me?
 - What would I most like to learn by volunteering?
 - Do I have any skills or talents that I would want to use in volunteering?
 - Do I want to do this alone or with my friends or with my family?

JUST A FEW IDEAS! ALSO, CHECK OUT THE SCHOLOGY GROUP FOR MORE!

- Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library Children's Room
- Other local libraries (Lynbrook, Valley Stream, etc.)
- HES, Ogden, or FECC--Contact the schools/PTA's
- Local synagogues and churches
- Local firehouses
- Food pantries
- Animal Shelters (such as Lend a Paw in Freeport or Last Hope Animal Rescue in Wantagh)
- Arts Below Sunrise
- Rock Hall Museum
- The Inn
- The JCC