

Lincoln Junior High School
National Junior Honor Society
Bylaws

Article I: Name and Purpose

Section 1- The name of this chapter shall be the Lincoln Junior High Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society.

Section 2- The purpose of this chapter 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 students of Lincoln Junior High School.

Article II: Membership

Section 1- Membership in this chapter shall be known as active and honorary. Honorary members become Active members at the promotion ceremony. Honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 2- Membership in this chapter is an honor bestowed upon deserving students by the faculty, and shall be based on the criteria of scholarship, service, leadership, citizenship, and character.

Section 3- Eligibility

- a. Candidates eligible for election this chapter must be in the second semester of 7th grade.
- b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidates must have been in attendance for a period of one semester at Lincoln Junior High School.
- c. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative average of 90 in all classes through the 3rd grading cycle of the current school year. This scholastic achievement shall remain fixed and shall be the minimum level of scholastic achievement for admission to candidacy.
- d. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum of 12 "E" grades in citizenship for the previous semester. Candidates who have an "N" or "U" in citizenship are not eligible for membership.
- e. Candidates who have been in DAEP or ISS are not eligible for membership.
- f. Attendance must be satisfactory according to school policy in order to be considered for membership.

- g. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and GPA standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, citizenship, and character.

Article III: Selection of Members

Section 1- The selection of members to this chapter shall be by majority vote of the Faculty Council consisting of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter advisor shall be the sixth, nonvoting, ex officio member of the Faculty Council.

Section 2- Prior to selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. Teachers will evaluate students based on their scholarship, service, leadership, citizenship, and character.
- c. Students who are eligible "candidates" shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the Student Activity Information Form for further consideration of selection.
- d. The Faculty Council shall review the Student Activity Information Form and faculty evaluations in order to determine membership.

Section 3- The selection of new active members shall be held once a year during the first semester of the school year. (Alternative or additional selection periods may be added)

Section 4- Candidates become members when induction at a special ceremony.

Section 5- Once selected and inducted, all members are expected to maintain the standards by which they were selected and maintain all obligations of membership.

Section 6- 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 adviser.

Section 7- An active member of the National Junior Honor Society 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 requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain his or her membership.

Article IV: Discipline and Dismissal

Section 1- Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, citizenship or service may be considered for dismissal from the LJHS Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. A member of the National Junior Honor Society is expected to maintain his or her academic standing to take an active role in service and leadership in his or her school and community.

Section 2- If a member's cumulative GPA falls below the standard of 91, he or she will be given a letter of probation. If at any time during the year his/her cumulative GPA falls below 91 again, the Faculty Council will dismiss the student from the chapter.

Section 3- If a member fails to perform any of the published obligations of membership (see Member Agreement), he or she will be given a letter of probation. If these obligations fall below the standards again, at any time during the school year, the student will be dismissed by the Faculty Council.

Section 4- Violation of the law or school regulations can result in dismissal of a member. These violations included, but are not limited to:

- Stealing
- Destruction of property
- Cheating
- Truancy
- Possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities.
- Bullying

Section 5- Offenders of the school conduct code will be placed on probation. A conference may be requested by either party (Faculty Council, student, or parent). If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member will be dismissed.

Section 6- In all cases of pending dismissal

- a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the adviser of Faculty Council. The member and adviser will discuss the written notification in a conference. Situations that involve flagrant violations of school rules or the law can warrant disciplinary action without a written warning although a hearing must still be held.
- b. The member will be given the opportunity to respond to the charge against him or her at a hearing before the Faculty Council prior to the vote on dismissal. The Faculty Council will then vote on whether to

dismiss. A majority vote of the Faculty Council is needed to dismiss any member.

- c. The results of the Faculty Council vote will be reviewed by the principal and then, if confirmed, expressed in a letter sent to the student, parents, and principal. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser.
- d. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards through the school district discipline policy.
- e. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he or she is no longer a member and may not be reconsidered for membership in the National Junior Honor Society.

Section 7- In lieu of dismissal, the Faculty Council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

Article V: Officers

Section 1- The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

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 first vote does not yield a majority, a second vote shall be taken of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Section 4- It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings for this chapter.

Section 5- The vice president shall preside in the absence of the president and shall also keep a record of members' contributions to leadership and service.

Section 6- The secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence.

Section 7- The treasurer shall keep the record of chapter expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter.

Section 8- Any officer whose conduct falls below NJHS standards (as delineated within Article IV, Sections 3, 4, & 5 of these by-laws) shall be automatically removed from office.

Article VI: Executive Committee

Section 1- The executive committee shall consist of faculty advisor and the chapter officers.

Section 2- The executive committee shall have general charge of the meetings and the business of the chapter, but any action by the executive committee is subject to the review of the chapter members.

Article VII: Meetings

Section 1- Meetings of this chapter shall be monthly. Additional called meetings may take place on an as needed basis.

Section 2- This chapter shall conduct its meetings according to *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Section 3- All chapter members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled chapter meetings.

Article VIII: Activities

Section 1- The chapter shall determine one or more group service projects for each year.

Section 2- All members shall regularly participate in at least 1 group service project per year.

Section 3- Group 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 4- Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in individual service projects that reflect his or her particular talents and interests as approved by the chapter advisor. Each member is responsible for at least 8 individual service hours per year.

Section 5- The chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.

Article IX: Emblem

Section 1- Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall have the privilege of wearing the emblem adopted by the National Junior Honor Society.

Section 2- Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

Section 3- If a promotion ceremony is held, chapter members who are 8th graders in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the honor cords or other insignia adopted at the local level at the promotion ceremony.

Article X: Dues

Section 1- Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$30.

Section 2- Dues will be payable to the chapter adviser by the date of the induction ceremony for new members.

Article XI: Powers

Section 1-The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

Section 2- The principal shall receive the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

Section 3- These bylaws are designed to amplify provisions of the national constitution and cannot contradict any components thereof. The chapter is obligated to adhere to the provisions of the national constitution in all activities it undertakes.

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 the 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.