

Midland Academy's National Junior Honor Society Selection and Dismissal Process

The Midland Academy Charter School Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society follows the national constitution for the selection and dismissal process of students. Students do not apply for membership in the National Honor Society. Instead, they provide information to be used by the local selection committee to support their candidacy for membership. Membership is granted only to those students selected by the Faculty Council on the condition of their having met the standards for selection and based on the provisions of the national constitution. Midland Academy Charter School Chapter will use a five-member Faculty Council, appointed by the principal, which selects all new members and monitors and disciplines existing chapter members. Our selection and dismissal of members is as follows:

SELECTION PROCEDURES

Prerequisite Conditions for Selection:

- To be eligible for membership the candidate must be a member of those classes (second semester sixth grade, seventh grade, eighth grade, or ninth grade) designated as eligible in the chapter bylaws. Candidates must have been in attendance at Midland Academy Charter School the equivalent of one semester to establish themselves academically and involve themselves in various service and leadership activities, and for the faculty to get to know them and the quality of their character.

Criteria for Membership:

- The Faculty Council will first identify students with the prerequisite GPA (minimum cumulative scholastic GPA average of at least 85 percent, B, or 3.0 on a 4.0 scale) and then evaluate the candidates' performance in the areas of **leadership, service, citizenship, and character**.
- Students who are eligible scholastically will be notified and informed that for further consideration for selection to the chapter, they may complete the "Student Activity Information Form" by the noted date on the form in order to provide information to assist the Faculty Council in the selection process. These surveys are not applications for membership and the review of this information does not guarantee selection.

Scholarship: The scholarship requirement set by the National Council is based on a student's cumulative GPA. Cumulative GPA refers to the total academic performance as demonstrated by the grades received by the student while in attendance at the school where the chapter is found. For example, in a middle school containing grades 6-8, even when students are selected during their seventh-grade year, grades from the sixth grade on should be used to compute the scholastic average. Only those students who have a cumulative GPA of 85%, B, 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) or equivalent standard of excellence, or a higher cumulative average meet the scholarship requirement for NJHS membership. These students are then eligible for consideration on the basis of service, leadership, citizenship, and character.

Leadership: Leadership may be interpreted in terms of the number of offices a student has held in school or community organizations. It also exists outside elected positions including effective participation in positions of responsibility in other activities offered on campus such as team captains/leaders, committee chairs in student groups, etc. Leadership roles in both the school and community may be considered, provided they can be verified.

Service: Service is generally considered to be those actions undertaken by the student which are done with or on behalf of others without any direct financial or material compensation. In considering service, the

contributions a candidate has made to school, classmates, and community as well as the student's attitude toward service will be reviewed. All service references by candidates should include verification by an adult supervisor of the activity under consideration.

Citizenship: The student who demonstrates citizenship understands the importance of civic involvement; has a high regard for freedom and justice, respects the U.S. form of government (representative democracy), and respects the laws at the local, state, and federal level that protect the government; and demonstrates mature participation and responsibility through involvement with such activities as scouting, community organizations, and school clubs.

Character: Midland Academy supports the use of a multifaceted definition of character know as the Six Pillars of Character from the Character Counts! Coalition. A person of character demonstrates the following six qualities: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship.

- The Student Activity Information Form will be reviewed by the Faculty Council, along with any other verifiable information about the candidates relevant to their candidacy.
- With the vote on each candidate, those candidates receiving a majority vote of the Faculty Council will be invited to be inducted into the chapter.
- Prior to notification of any candidates, the chapter adviser will report to the principal the results of the Faculty Council's deliberations for approval.
- Those students selected and their parents will be notified promptly and formally through printed letters. For candidates selected, information regarding the induction ceremony will be provided. The letter will also outline some of the duties, responsibilities, or obligations of membership in the National Junior Honor Society.
- By definition, a member is a student who has successfully completed both the selection process and the induction ceremony.
- Non-selected candidates and their parents will also be notified promptly and formally through printed letters.

DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

A member can never be dismissed automatically for failing to maintain standards, not meeting member obligations, or even being found guilty of violating school rules or the law. Article X, Section 4, of the Constitution of the National Junior Honor Society states that a written notification and hearing are called for and must be conducted by the Faculty Council to dismiss a member.

- A member will be subject to dismissal if he/she does not maintain the standards of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character that were used as the basis for his/her selection.
- A member can be considered for dismissal when performance falls below the acceptable levels of any of the standards by which the student was selected, when the member fails to fulfill chapter obligations, or when the member is found guilty of violating school rules or the law. Additionally, repeated uniform violations and behaviors prohibited by the Student Code of Conduct may also result in dismissal of a member.
- The student and parents will be warned in writing whenever he/she falls below any standard.
- The Faculty Council can select to discipline a member by placing him/her on warning, during which time he/she is considered not in good standing with the chapter, although technically still retaining membership.
- The Faculty Council will determine when an individual has exceeded a reasonable number of warnings, thus

warranting consideration of dismissal.

- Only members who are in good standing will be allowed to wear the Society's emblem.
- Members will be allowed limited warnings during their membership. In the case of flagrant violation of school rules or the law, a warning is not required for dismissal, but a hearing will still be held. The hearing is identified in the NJHS constitution as a right of membership; is guaranteed as due process as identified by the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution; and requires the chapter to notify the member of the action being contemplated, the reasons for the action, the date and time of the hearing, and the opportunity for the member to respond either in writing or orally. A parent or guardian may be present with the member; however, the primary focus of the hearing is to allow the member to present his or her case.
- A student who is dismissed or who resigns is never again eligible for membership in NJHS.
- If a member is dismissed, written notice of the decision will be sent to the member, his or her parents, and the principal. The member must then surrender the NJHS emblem and membership card to the chapter adviser.
- Appeals of dismissal are to be handled first by the school principal and, thereafter, in the same fashion as disciplinary appeals in the student's school district.
- A member who resigns from the NJHS will never again be eligible for membership or its benefits. Resignation from the Honor Society should involve the submission of a written statement by the resigning member that is dated and signed by both the student and his or her parents.