

Swift Middle School National Junior Honor Society Bylaws: Selection and Dismissal Procedures

Article I: NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1

—The name of this organization shall be the Swift Middle School 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 character, and to encourage the development of these traits in students of Swift Middle School.

Section 3

—The Swift Middle School Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society shall be subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the National Junior Honor Society.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

—Membership in this chapter shall be known as active and honorary. The Faculty Council shall reserve the right to award honorary membership to school officials, principals, teachers, NJHS advisors, or others in recognition of outstanding service to the school in keeping with the purpose of the National Junior Honor Society.

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

—Membership in National Junior Honor Society does not guarantee entry into the National Honor Society. A separate application and approval process will be required for NHS.

Section 4

—Eligibility

a. Candidates eligible for election to this chapter must be in grades seventh or eighth.

b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of one semester at Swift Middle School.

c. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.6. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum level of scholastic achievement for admission to candidacy. All students who can rise in scholarship to or above such standard may be admitted to candidacy for selection to membership.

d. 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 I

—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 adviser 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. Students who are eligible scholastically ("candidates") shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the Student Application form provided by the Chapter Adviser for further consideration for selection.

c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official evaluation form provided by the chapter adviser.

d. The Faculty Council shall review the Student Application 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 second semester of the school year. (Alternative or additional selection period may be added.)

Section 4

—Candidates become members when inducted 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 at all times. The obligations of membership include:

A. Character

1. Character will be based on the following attributes:
 - a. Respect for others.
 - b. Dependability – meets individual pledges and responsibilities.
 - c. Honesty – demonstrates highest standards of attributes toward honesty and reliability with self and others.
 - d. Exercises emotional stability and self-control.
 - e. Industry – completes required tasks to the best of his/her abilities and seeks additional work.
 - f. Cooperation – shares in group activities for mutual benefits.
 - g. Upholds principles of morality and ethics.
 - h. Neatness – demonstrates neatness of personal

appearance and property.

B. Leadership

1. Leadership is based on the following:

- a. Demonstrates leadership in promoting school activities.
- b. Demonstrates leadership in the community.
- c. Demonstrates leadership in the classroom.
- d. Successfully holds school offices and positions of responsibility.
- e. Exemplifies qualities and attitudes which are a silent influence on others.

C. Service

1. Service is based on the following:

- a. Willingly gives his/her time, energies, and abilities to Swift Middle School.
- b. Willingly gives his/her time, energies, and abilities to the community.
- c. Candidates must provide documentation of ten hours of community service or participate in three service projects. The name, phone number, statement, and signature of the supervising adult(s) will document such service. All ten service hours must be served and documented by the first Monday in June of the end of the school year.

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 Swift Middle School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. A member of the Swift Middle School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society is expected to maintain his or her academic standing and take an active role in service and leadership to his or her school and community.

Section 2

—If a member's cumulative GPA falls below the standard in effect, a 3.6 average, when he or she was selected, he or she will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement (one marking period). If the cumulative GPA remains below standard at the end of the warning period (one marking period), the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council, which may include consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3

—If a member fails to perform any of the published obligations of membership, he or she will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement. If the obligation remains unmet at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council, which may include dismissal from the chapter.

Section 4

—Violation of the law or school regulations can result in dismissal of a member. Students must follow all rules and regulations as outlined in

the Swift Middle School Student Handbook. Offenses that result in suspension will be turned into the Faculty Committee with a recommendation for dismissal.

Section 5

—Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absence, excessive tardiness, etc) will receive written warning notification.

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 may be considered for dismissal.

Section 6

—In all cases of pending dismissal:

a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the adviser or 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 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, guardians, and principal. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to adviser.

d. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the building principal in writing within 10 days of the hearing.

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, treasurer, and historian.

Section 2

—Student officers shall be elected at a meeting during the 1st month of each school year. All returning active members are eligible to run for 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. The Following duties should reflect the responsibilities developed for officers in the local chapter:

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

—If a member fails to perform all responsibilities associated with their title, he or she will be reviewed by the chapter adviser. If deemed necessary a new member may be elected to fulfill the position.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1

—The executive committee shall consist of the faculty adviser and the chapters' 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 no less than once a month.

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.

Section 4

—Special meetings approved by the executive committee may be called by the President.

ARTICLE VIII: ACTIVITIES

Section 1

—The chapter shall determine a minimum of 3 service projects for each year. Project opportunities will be voted on by all members. A majority vote is required to approve each project.

Section 2

—All members shall regularly participate in these projects.

Section 3

—These projects shall have the following characteristics:

- fulfill a need within the school, the local community, or the world
- have the support of the administration and the faculty
- be well planned, organized, and executed

Section 4

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

—The motto of the National Junior Honor Society shall be “Light is the Symbol of Truth”.

Section 4

—The official colors of the National Junior Honor Society shall be blue and white.

ARTICLE X: DUES

Section 1

—The Chapter will pay an annual dues affiliation fee recommended by the National Council and approved by the NASSP Board of Directors.

Section 2

—The annual individual member dues paid to the Chapter shall be a one-time membership fee of \$5.00 or less, at the discretion of the adviser and the Executive Committee. In an individual case of financial hardship, two additional service hours may be served in lieu of the fee.

ARTICLE XI: POWERS

Section 1

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

Section 2

—The principal shall reserve 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 members at least one month prior to the vote.

The exceptions are Article III and IV (selection and discipline), 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 Junior Honor Society November 14, 2011

Mr. Paul Gladfelter, Principal

Mrs. Emily Mankin, Chapter Adviser

_Bylaws last updated Nov. 28, 2014