

Beveridge Magnet School

National Junior Honor Society By-Laws

Article I

Name of Organization and Purpose

Section 1- The name of the chapter shall be the Beveridge Magnet School National Junior Honor Society.

Section 2- The purpose of the organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, to develop character, and to encourage citizenship in the students of Beveridge Magnet School.

Article II

Powers of Organization

Section 1- The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

Section 2- The Faculty Council shall consist of one advisor and members of the NJHS committee (no fewer than 5 members). No principal or assistant principal may be included in the Faculty Council.

Section 3- The Chapter Advisor shall be responsible for the direct, day to day supervision of the chapter and act as liaison between faculty, administration, students and community.

Section 4 – The Chapter Advisor shall regularly review each member for compliance with Society standards and obligations.

Section 5- The Faculty Council develops and revises, when necessary, all chapter procedures, disciplining and dismissal of members.

Section 6- The Faculty Council reserves the right to amend by-laws.

Article III

Membership of Organization

Section 1- Membership in local chapters is an honor bestowed upon deserving students. Selection for membership is by the Faculty Council and is based on

outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, service, and citizenship. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

Section 2- The Faculty Council reserves the right to award honorary membership to school officials, principals, teachers, NJHS advisors, or adults in recognition of outstanding service rendered to the school in keeping with the purpose of the National Junior Honor Society.

Article IV

Selection of Members

Section 1- The selection of members to this chapter shall be determined by the Faculty Council based on input from grade level teams.

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

- a. Students' academic records will be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. Students who are eligible scholastically shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the student application form by the due date, for further consideration for selection. No late applications will be accepted.
- c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the rubric provided by the Faculty Council.
- d. The Faculty Council shall review the candidate input forms and the rubric evaluations in order to determine membership.

Section 3- To be eligible for membership, candidates must be a student in the seventh or eighth grades.

Section 4- Candidates must have been at the school at least one full semester.

Section 5- Candidates must have cumulative GPA of 3.8 at the end of the first semester and/or at the end of the year depending on when inductions are conducted.

Section 6- Selection for membership is based on scholarship, citizenship, character, leadership and service.

Section 7- In order to become a member of NJHS, candidates must be inducted at a special ceremony.

Section 8- A National Junior Honor Society member who transfers from another school and brings a letter from the former principal or chapter advisor to the new school advisor shall be automatically accepted as a member in the school's chapter. Transfer members must meet the chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership.

Section 9- Members who resign or are dismissed are never eligible for National Junior Honor Society membership or its benefits.

Article V

Discipline and Dismissal

Section 1- The procedure for dismissal shall be determined by the Faculty Council in compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Junior Honor Society.

Section 2- Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, character, citizenship, leadership, or service which were basis for their selection, may be dismissed from the Beveridge Magnet School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society.

Section 3- If the member's academic status falls below the 3.8 GPA standard, he/she will be given a reasonable amount of time for improvement. The member shall be promptly warned in writing by the chapter advisor. If the member's academic status remains below the 3.8 GPA at the end of that time, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council that may include dismissal from the chapter. In the case of flagrant violations of school rules, a member does not necessarily have to be warned; a member who is suspended is automatically dismissed.

Section 4- No student who has been suspended from school during the current school year will be invited to be a member of NJHS.

Section 5- No student who has been suspended or who has had excessive visits to the office during the current school year is eligible to be a candidate.

Section 6- Violation of the law or school regulations will result in dismissal of a member. These violations include, but are not limited to stealing, destruction of property, cheating, fighting, or bullying.

Section 7- In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for dismissal from the Chapter advisor. The member and advisor 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 formal meeting must still take place.
- b. The member will be given opportunity to respond to the charge against him/her at the formal meeting before the Faculty Council prior to the vote on dismissal. The member has the opportunity to respond to the charge in writing or in person. The Faculty Council will then vote in private session 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.
 - d. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the building principal.
 - e. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he/she is no longer a member and may never again be considered for membership in the National Junior Honor Society.

Article VI

Chapter Officers

Section 1- The officers shall be president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and/or public relations.

Section 2- Candidates for office will be nominated and voted on by the chapter membership.

Section 3- The election of the officers shall be as follows: Members nominate themselves by completing the officer application.

Section 4- The majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to elect any officer. The chapter advisors shall count the votes.

Section 5- It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings for the chapter with the assistance from the chapter advisors.

Section 6- The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president and shall assist the president in organizing the meetings.

Section 7- The secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence.

Section 8- The treasurer shall keep the record of the chapter expenses and all financial transactions of the chapter. The treasurer must be present at all fundraisers.

Section 9- The public relations officer is responsible for the media record of the chapter. This may include photographs and/or video of chapter activities. He/she will be responsible for the upkeep of the NJHS webpage.

Section 10- The Executive Committee is composed of the chapter officers and Faculty Council.

Article VII

Executive Committee

Section 1- The Executive Committee shall consist of the chapter officers and Faculty Council.

Section 2- The Faculty Council shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its business meetings, led by the chapter officers, make recommendations to the chapter, and determine and perform such other duties as are specified in the chapter by-laws.

Section 3- The Faculty Council and officers shall have the responsibility of ensuring that the chapter activities and procedures follow school policy and regulations.

Article VIII

Meetings

Section 1- Chapter meetings will be held once a month.

Section 2- Special meetings may be called by the chapter advisor, the president, or chairpersons of chapter committees (the last 2 with approval of chapter advisors).

Section 3- Members who miss half of the meetings excused or non-excused will not be allowed to participate in the end of the school year activity.

Article IX

Activities

Section 1- Each chapter shall determine one or more service projects per semester.

Section 2- All members shall regularly participate in these projects.

Section 3- Members who do not participate in at least two school projects or 5 hours at an outside organization will not be eligible to participate in the end of the school year activity

Section 4- These projects shall have the following characteristics: fulfill a need within the school or community, have the support of administration and faculty, be appropriate and educationally defensible, and be well planned, organized and executed.

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

Section 6- Each chapter member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in individual volunteer service project that reflects the particular talents and interests of that member.

Section 7- If a members chooses to complete their service hours outside of school, 5 volunteer service hours are required; an adult, other than a parent, must sign notice of the service hours.

Section 8- If a member chooses to complete volunteer hours during the summer, all hours may be counted toward the service hour requirement.

Section 11- Members that do not participate in the chapter service projects or individual volunteer service hours will not be allowed to participate in the end of the school year activity.

Article X

Amendments

Section 1- These by-laws may be amended at any meeting of the Beveridge Magnet School National Junior Honor Society by the Faculty Council and the school administration.