

# Constitution of the National Junior Honor Society

## Article I

### Name and Purpose

Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be the Our Lady of Lourdes Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society of Our Lady of Lourdes School.

Section 2. The purpose of this chapter shall be to create an enthusiasm for superior

scholarship; to develop citizenship; to stimulate a desire to serve; to promote leadership; and to instill exemplary qualities of character.

## Article II

### Membership

Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be based upon *scholarship, character, leadership, citizenship, and service.*

Section 2. The election of members to this chapter shall be by the entire faculty or by a faculty council, with the principal acting as advisor.

Section 3. To be eligible for election to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance at this school for a period equivalent to one semester.

Section 4. Candidates eligible for election to this chapter must be in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum scholarship of 93.5. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum scholastic level of achievement for admission to candidacy. All students who can rise in scholarship to or above such standard may be admitted to candidacy for election to membership. Candidates shall then be considered on the basis of citizenship, service, leadership, and character.

Section 5. All members shall be inducted into the Society with impressive and appropriate ceremonies.

Section 6. A member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter, upon presentation of a letter signed by his former principal certifying membership. In order to retain membership, a transfer member must then maintain the membership requirements for this chapter.

Section 7. A member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of his membership, signed by the principal.

Section 8. Any member who falls below the standards used as the basis for his election to the Society shall be promptly warned. If, during the next regular marking period of the school, the member fails to meet these standards, his case shall be passed upon by the faculty or faculty council. Once a member has been dismissed, he is never again eligible for membership in the National Junior Honor Society. A majority vote of the faculty or faculty council shall be necessary for dismissal.

Section 9. When a member is dismissed, he shall be notified in writing and his emblem and membership card returned to the advisor or principal. Notice of his

dismissal is then indicated on the annual report submitted to the national secretary at the end of the school year.

## **Article III**

### **Faculty Supervision**

Section 1. The principal shall appoint a teacher who will serve as the chapter advisor.

Section 2. The faculty or a faculty council of five faculty members, appointed by the principal, will meet with the principal for the election or dismissal of members.

Section 3. All activities of the chapter shall be subject to the approval of the principal.

## **Article IV**

### **Officers**

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

Section 2. Officers shall be elected at a regular meeting of the National Junior Honor Society and shall not be eligible to succeed themselves.

Section 3. A majority of votes cast shall be necessary to elect any officers in this chapter.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings.

Section 5. The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president.

Section 6. The secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings. He/she shall, with approval of the principal or advisor, certify to the National Council, the names of those elected to membership during the school year, on the annual report submitted, each spring, to the national secretary.

Section 7. The treasurer shall, with approval of the advisor or principal, receive and disburse all funds of the chapter, and keep accurate account of receipts and disbursements, in keeping with the policy of the school for handling funds of school organizations.

## **Article V**

### **Executive Committee**

Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of the principal and/or faculty advisor and the officers of the chapter.

Section 2. The executive committee shall have general charge of the meetings and business of the chapter, but any action on the part of the executive committee shall be subject to review by the chapter membership, except that the dismissal of members is the exclusive duty of the faculty or faculty council.

Section 3. The president of the chapter shall act as chairman of the executive committee.

## **Article VI**

### **Meetings**

Section 1. There shall be regular meetings of this chapter during the school year.

Section 2. Special meetings, approved by the executive committee, may be called by the president.

Section 3. All meetings shall be open meetings and shall be held under the supervision of the principal or the faculty advisor.

## **Article VII**

### **Dues**

Section 1. Annual chapter dues for each member shall not exceed \$5. The amount of dues for Our Lady of Lourdes Chapter shall be \$5 per year.

## **Article VIII**

### **Emblem**

Section 1. Each member of this chapter shall be entitled to wear the official emblem or insignia of the National Junior Honor Society.

Section 2. Any member who withdraws or who is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the principal or advisor.

Section 3. Each member agrees that, whether the emblem comes to him as a gift, a personal purchase, an award or from whatever source, the title to the emblem rests with the chapter of which he is a member. The council can, therefore, by a majority vote, request that any member return the emblem. In the case where the emblem can be shown to have been a personal purchase of the member, the council shall reimburse the member the original cost of the emblem upon its surrender. Furthermore, each member agrees that his acceptance of the emblem shall be considered affirmation of this stipulation in regard to the title of the emblem.

Section 4. All insignia must be procured from the national secretary of the National Junior Honor Society, 1904 Associative Drive, Reston, Virginia 22091. All insignia are registered in the United States Patent Office, and cannot be duplicated by anyone.

## **Article IX**

### **Amendments**

Section 1. This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the chapter, provided that the executive committee and the faculty or the faculty council has approved the proposed amendment.

## **BYLAWS OF THE NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY**

1. Meetings for the Our Lady of Lourdes Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society shall be held once a month. Members will be allowed two excused absences during the year. Absences are excused by the principal or faculty advisor. More than two excused absences will result in immediate dismissal from the National Junior Honor Society.
2. Elections of the officers will be held in May or August.
3. A vacancy in office shall be filled by the process of election.

4. Standing committees will be appointed when necessary or as seen fit by the membership.

5. National Junior Honor Society members are held to a higher standard and must maintain a 93.5 grade point average (there are no quality points for honors) and an "A" in conduct per grading period.

6. Any student receiving a detention or referral for any reason must notify one of the advisors within two days of the infraction.

### **Contract of Agreement**

I have read the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Junior Honor Society. I understand and agree to abide by the rules outlined in this document.

I realize that as a National Junior Honor Society member, I must maintain a higher standard. I will, therefore, strive to maintain a grade point average of 93.5 and a conduct grade of A for every grading period. (There are no quality points for any honors classes.)

I also realize that if I fail to maintain this higher standard, I am subject to dismissal from the National Junior Honor Society.

I will also attend all National Junior Honor Society meetings and activities.

I realize that I can only have two excused absences in one year. More than two excused absences will result in immediate dismissal.

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_