



# Chapter Bylaws of the Salado Middle School Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society

## ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this chapter shall be the Salado Middle School Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society of Salado Middle School.

## ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

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 to encourage the development of character and citizenship in students of Salado Middle School.

## ARTICLE III: POWERS

**Section 1.** This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the National Constitution of NJHS. See [www.njhs.us/constitutions](http://www.njhs.us/constitutions). In addition, this chapter will maintain active affiliation with the national organization on an annual basis.

**Section 2.** The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

**Section 3.** Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.

**Section 4.** Nondiscrimination. Our chapter of NJHS maintains policies and practices that are designed to prevent discrimination against any qualified candidate or member on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, and disability. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all practices, including the chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of member



## ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1.** 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, character, and citizenship.

**Section 2.** Membership in this chapter shall be known as active, honorary, and alumni. Active members become alumni members at graduation. Alumni and honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs. Honorary members are selected at the discretion of the Faculty Council. Alumni and honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

### Section 3. Eligibility:

- a. Membership in this chapter is limited to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class.
- b. To be eligible for election to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been enrolled for a period equivalent to one semester at Salado Middle School.
- c. Membership is based on scholarship, leadership, service and character. Students who wish to attain membership status must meet the requirements outlined in the following four sections:
  - 1) **SCHOLARSHIP:** Eligible candidates must have a minimum **weighted** overall cumulative average of 98 after the fall semester of seventh grade. The calculated average will include 6<sup>th</sup> grade and first semester of 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Candidates must also be currently enrolled in at least one core content honors level class.
  - 2) **LEADERSHIP:** Candidates for membership must be an active member of two or more school activities or organizations during the seventh grade year. Activities may include, but are not limited to: band, UIL, choir, FFA, athletics, cheerleading, student council, FCA.
  - 3) **SERVICE:** Three hours of voluntary service is required for initial entry. Additional hours are required for continued enrollment in NJHS (*see Article IX, Section 5*). Service is defined as volunteer service in the church, school, or community. Service does not include anything for which payment is received or work whereby the parent or guardian is the supervisor. A supervisor's signature is required for verification of service experience.
  - 4) **CHARACTER:** Candidates for membership must present two forms of recommendation attesting to good character and must receive a unanimous vote from a five-member faculty council. At least one of the letters must be from a teacher. Letters from relatives or peers will not be accepted.

## ARTICLE V: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

**Section 1.** The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the faculty council which consists 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.** The selection of active members shall be held once a year during the second semester of the school year.



**Section 3.** Prior to the final selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. All students who are eligible scholastically shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the candidate information form for further consideration.
- c. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official input form provided by the chapter adviser.
- d. The faculty council shall review the candidate information forms, faculty input, and other relevant information to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership.

**Section 4.** Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

**Section 5.** An active member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter, upon receipt of membership acknowledgement from the previous school's principal.

## **ARTICLE VI: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS**

**Section 1.** Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$10.00.

**Section 2.** New inductee membership dues must be paid prior to the induction ceremony.

## **ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS**

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

**Section 2.** All members in good standing with the chapter are eligible to run for a position as an officer. Any active member can nominate an eligible member as a candidate for office.

**Section 3.** Voting shall be by secret ballot. 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 of the chapter, and serve as the official representative of the chapter at school and community functions.

**Section 5.** The vice president shall preside in the absence of the president at all chapter meetings.

**Section 6.** The secretary shall keep the minutes and attendance records for meetings and be responsible for all official correspondence.



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

**Section 8.** Officers and the faculty adviser(s) shall collectively be known as the chapter's executive committee. The executive committee shall establish annual goals for the chapter and 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 VIII: MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** Regular meetings of this chapter shall be monthly. Special meetings can be called by the president with approval of the adviser.

**Section 2.** Members are expected to attend all chapter meetings. If a member fails to attend three meetings, an hour is added to the member's service hour requirement.

**Section 3.** A drawing for a free service hour may be held during the regular meeting of the membership.

## **ARTICLE IX: ACTIVITIES**

**Section 1.** The executive committee shall determine one or more service projects for each year.

**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 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.** The chapter shall publicize and promote its projects in a positive manner.

**Section 5.** To be eligible for recognition as a member of National Junior Honor Society at the eighth grade awards ceremony, members must complete an additional six hours of service after the National Honor Society induction ceremony. All service hours must be documented and submitted by the last Friday in April of the member's eighth grade year.

## **ARTICLE X: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL of MEMBERS**

**Section 1.** Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, service, leadership, character, or citizenship may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the Salado Middle School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. A member of the National Junior Honor Society is expected to maintain his/her academic standing and take an active role in service and leadership to his/her school and community. A member will only be issued one warning for violation to standards and/or requirements.



**Section 2.** If a member's cumulative grade point average falls below the standard in effect when he/she was selected, he /she will be given a written warning and a reasonable time period for improvement. If the cumulative grade point average remains below standard at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the faculty council that includes consideration of dismissal from the chapter. A member will never again be given a warning period for grades. If the grade point average again falls below the standard, he/she will be dismissed.

**Section 3.** Violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member (see Section 5 below). These violations include, but are not limited to stealing; destruction of property; cheating; truancy; or possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities or in the community.

**Section 4.** Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc.) will receive written warning notification. A conference may be requested by either party (faculty council or student/parent). If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal.

**Section 5.** Chapter officers, as representatives of the chapter, can be removed from their positions as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the faculty council.

**Section 6.** In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification from the adviser/faculty council indicating the reason for consideration of dismissal.
- b. The member has the right to respond to the charge(s) against him/her at a hearing before the faculty council prior to any vote on dismissal (in accordance with due process identified in Article X of the National Constitution). The member has the opportunity to present his/her defense either in person or via a written statement presented in lieu of the face-to-face hearing. Following the hearing, 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 presented to the principal for review, and then stated in a letter sent to the student and parents. 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 according to provisions of the school district discipline policies.
- e. A member who is dismissed or resigns may never again be considered 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 XI: RATIFICATION, APPROVAL, and REVIEW.**

These bylaws will be approved upon receiving a two-thirds affirmative vote of all active members of the chapter, a majority affirmative vote of the faculty council, and approval by the administration.



## ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

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 Articles IV, V, and X, which are developed by the faculty council with the approval of the principal.