



The National Junior Honor Society Lowell H Strike Middle School

The National Junior Honor Society chapter of Lowell H Strike Middle School is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization. Membership is open to those students who meet the required standards in five areas of evaluation: scholarship, leadership, service and citizenship, and character. Standards for selection are established by the national office of NJHS and have been revised to meet our local chapter needs. Students are selected to be members by a Faculty Council, appointed by the Principal, which bestows this honor each year upon qualified students on behalf of the faculty of our school.

Students who have attended Lowell H Strike Middle School for a minimum of one full semester are eligible for membership after the second grading period of the 6th grade. Spring is the membership drive period. For the scholarship criterion, a student must have an average of 90 or above in all classes for the Fall Semester(i.e., core classes and electives).

Those students who meet this criterion are invited to complete an application which consists of a Student Activity Information Form, Letter of Recommendation from a community member, teacher feedback, and a subjective letter by the candidate that provides the Faculty Council with information regarding the candidate's leadership, service, citizenship, and character. A history of leadership experiences and participation in school or community service is required. A letter will be sent to each applicant with whether they are selected or not.

Following notification, a formal induction ceremony is held at the school in April or May to recognize all the newly selected members. Once inducted, new members are required to maintain the same level of performance (or better) in all five criteria that led to their selection. This obligation includes regular attendance at chapter meetings held monthly during the school year with no more than two excused absences and participation in the chapter service project(s).

For more information regarding the selection process or membership obligations, refer to the NJHS Bylaws of Lowell H Strike Middle School located on the school's website.



The National Junior Honor Society Lowell H Strike Middle School Chapter By-Laws

The by-laws of the National Junior Honor Society are a constitutional mandate (Article XVI). Therefore, be it known that *these* by-laws conform to the guidelines and regulations of the National Constitution of the National Junior Honor Society of Secondary Schools.

Article I: Name and Purpose

Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be the Strike Middle School Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society of Lowell H Strike Middle School.

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, to generate high regard for citizenship, and to encourage the development of character in the students of Lowell H Strike Middle School.

Article II: Membership

Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be known as active, honorary, and graduate (promoted). Active members become graduate (promoted) members at promotion. Promoted and honorary members have no vote in chapter affairs.

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, Leadership, Service, Citizenship, and Character.

Section 3. Eligibility:

- a. Candidates eligible for election into this chapter must be members of the sixth grade or seventh grade.
- b. To be eligible for selection for membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of at least one semester at Lowell H Strike Middle School.
- c. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have an overall average of 90 or above in all classes (i.e., core classes and electives). 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 selection to membership
- d. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and an overall average of 90 or above (i.e., core classes and electives) standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, citizenship, and character.

Article III: Selection

Section 1. The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council consisting of three faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be the fourth, 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 Information Form 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 Activity Information 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 spring semester of the school year.

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

Section 5. An active member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of his/her membership and signed by the chapter adviser and the Principal.

Section 6. 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/her membership.

Article IV: Discipline and Dismissal

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, citizenship, or service will be dismissed from the Lowell H Strike 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, citizenship, and leadership to his/her school and community.

Section 2. If a member's grades fall below the standard in effect when he/she was selected, he/she will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement. If the grade remains below standard at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council that will include dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3. Violation of the law or school regulations can result in the dismissal of a member. These violations include, but are not limited to, stealing, assault, destruction of property, cheating, truancy, or possession, selling, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school related activities.

Section 4. Offenders of the school conduct code (these infractions include the use of profanity, bullying, failure to comply, unexcused absence, excessive tardiness (greater than 2), will receive a written warning notification. At this point, a conference will be requested by either the Faculty Council, student, or parent. If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member will be dismissed.

Section 5. In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the adviser/Faculty Council. The member and adviser will discuss the written notification at a conference. Situations that involve flagrant violations of the school rules or the law can warrant disciplinary action without a written warning, although a hearing must still be held (see below).
- b. The member will be given the opportunity to respond to the charge against him/her at a hearing before the Faculty Council prior to the 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 in writing. The Faculty Council will then vote on whether or not 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 once confirmed, expressed in a letter sent to the student and the 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 afterward through the school district discipline policy.
 - 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.

Section 6. 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 the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and historian.

Section 2. Student officers shall be elected at the first meeting of each school year. 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 shall reflect the responsibilities developed for officers in the local chapter. The execution of said duties shall be under the supervision of the chapter adviser.

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 (with supervision) for all chapter correspondence.

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

Section 8. The historian shall keep a visual record of the events of the chapter. They will also help to monitor the website and make sure it is being kept up to date.

Section 9. Chapter officers who are brought to the attention of the adviser/Faculty

Council as being in violation of any infraction pertaining to Article IV section 3 or 4 shall be relieved of their duties as an officer of this chapter immediately. If, upon the investigation of this allegation, reasonable information is found to support disciplinary actions, then the disciplinary /dismissal process explained in Article IV of these by-laws shall apply.

Section 10. An officer of this chapter whose grades fall below the standard in effect when he/she was selected shall be given a verbal warning and a time period for improvement. If the grades remain unchanged the officer shall be relieved of their duties and shall be disciplined according to Article IV Section 2.

Section 11. If at any time during the school year an office becomes vacant, an emergency election shall be held at the next regularly scheduled monthly meeting. The replacement vote shall be valid until the end of that school year.

Article VI: Executive Committee

Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of the faculty adviser(s) and the chapter 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 the 1st Friday afternoon of the month from 4:40 - 5:10 p.m. every month. Of course, this is subject to change and members should watch their email for any changes.

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. Absences from regularly scheduled chapter meetings shall be categorized as excused and unexcused. An excused absence may be granted if prior notification and a viable reason are given (limit two; exception - emergency). Two unexcused absences (during a given academic year) shall constitute a written warning and the disciplinary/dissmissal process as put forth in Article IV section 2 will apply.

Article VIII: Activities

Section 1. The chapter shall determine one or two service projects for each year.

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

Section 3. These projects 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. Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in 10 community service hours a semester.

Section 5. 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. Chapter members who are eighth-graders in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the emblem at the promotion ceremony if one is held.

Article X: Dues

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

Section 2. Dues will be payable to the chapter treasurer within 30 days of induction.

Article XI: Powers

Section 1. The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

Section 2. The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

Section 3. These by-laws are designed to amplify provisions of the National Constitution and cannot contradict any component 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 by-laws may be amended by a 2/3 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 II, III, and IV (membership, selection, and discipline), which are developed by the Faculty Council with the approval of the principal.

Section 2. By-laws and amendments *must be* consistent with the Constitution of the National Junior Honor Society.