

Chapter Bylaws
of the
Christa McAuliffe Chapter
of the
National Junior Honor Society
Adopted: November 2019

ARTICLE I: NAME

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

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of this chapter shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, to develop character, and to encourage good citizenship in students of Christa McAuliffe 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. In addition, this chapter will maintain active affiliation with the national organization on an annual basis.

Section 2: This chapter will remain an active member of the state association by paying annual dues and participating in state functions when possible.

Section 3. The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

Section 4: Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.

Section 5: 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 members.

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 and alumni. Active members become alumni members at graduation. Alumni members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 3: Eligibility:

- a. Candidates eligible for selection must be in the second semester of seventh grade or members of the eighth grade class.
- b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been enrolled for a period equivalent to one semester at Christa McAuliffe Middle School.
- c. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have received no grade lower than 90% in core academic areas (Literacy, Science, Social Studies, Math, Unified Arts, and Physical Education) AND no grade lower than 80% in any elective subject.
- d. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and academic standards, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, character, and citizenship.

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 seven faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be the eighth, nonvoting, *ex officio* member of the faculty council.

Section 2: The selection of active members shall be held once a year during the third marking period 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 (i.e., candidates) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the candidate information form for further consideration.
- c. The faculty council shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be eligible using the official input form provided by the chapter adviser.
- d. The faculty council shall review the candidate information forms, faculty input, student essay, and other relevant information (school attendance, conduct, student interview, etc.) 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 from this school will be given an official letter indicating the status of his/her membership.

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 VI: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Section 1: There are no annual dues for this chapter at this time.

Section 2: Each active member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the National Junior Honor Society. Please see Article VIII regarding active membership.

Section 3: Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1: Regular meetings of this chapter shall be monthly. Special meetings can be called when necessary by the adviser.

Section 2: Members are expected to attend all chapter meetings. In the event that a member cannot attend a meeting due to prior engagements or illness, that member must inform the chapter advisor either in person or in writing prior to the time of the meeting.

Section 3: Members are required to attend one meeting per marking period at a minimum to maintain active member status.

ARTICLE VIII: ACTIVITIES

Section 1: The chapter 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: Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in individual service projects which reflect his or her particular talents and interests and as approved by the chapter adviser. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute.

Section 5: Individual service hours should consist of a minimum of 10 hours per academic year.

Section 6: Service hours should be recorded on the Service Learning Log.

Section 7: The chapter shall publicize and promote its projects in a positive manner.

ARTICLE IX: 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 Christa McAuliffe 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.

Section 2: If a member earns a marking period grade of an 89% or lower in core academic areas or a 79% or lower in elective subjects, he/she will be given a written warning and a reasonable time period for improvement. If the student's 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 includes consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3: Violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member. 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: 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 IX 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 6: In lieu of dismissal, the faculty council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE X: RATIFICATION, APPROVAL, and REVIEW

Section 1: 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.

Section 2: These bylaws shall be reviewed and if necessary, revised within five years from the date of approval noted on this document.

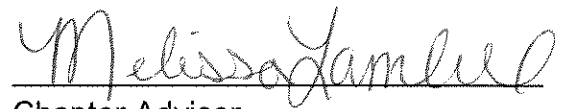
ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS

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 IX, which are developed by the faculty council with the approval of the principal.

Approved on November 13, 2019.

Signatures


School Principal


Chapter Advisor

