



National Junior Honor Society Candidacy Packet 2020-2021

Based on your academic performance and behavior since the beginning of sixth grade, you are eligible to apply for membership in the Ronald Thornton Middle School Chapter of National Junior Honor Society. Membership in NJHS is one of the highest honors that can be awarded to a student. Our chapter strives to give practical meaning to the Society's standards of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character.

These five ideals will be considered as the basis for your selection as well as a fundamental part of our chapter activities. The National Junior Honor Society strives to recognize the total student—one who excels in these areas. No student is inducted simply because of a high academic average. Please note that though you are eligible to apply, you have not been accepted into the organization yet. Applications must be reviewed by the NJHS Faculty Council to determine acceptance of new members.

If you are chosen to be inducted as a member of the Ronald Thornton Middle School Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society, you must maintain the standards utilized for your selection. Please be aware that you:

- **Must maintain a cumulative, overall middle school average of 85.0% and have no failing final grades in any courses.**
- Must have been enrolled at RTMS for at least one semester.
- Must abide by the Chapter's By-Laws noted on the Ronald Thornton Middle School website.
- Demonstrate sound and effective leadership, admirable citizenship, and trustworthy character at Ronald Thornton Middle School and in the community.
- Pay the chapter dues of \$20 and \$7 shirt prior to May 1st of 2020 (after acceptance into NJHS).
- Must participate in and have a ride to the NJHS Chapter community service projects in the Houston area.

Dismissal Procedures:

A student in NJHS:

- May be dismissed from the chapter for failing to complete and to provide documentation of 25 points of community service and school service *each semester*.
- May be placed on probation for receiving an N or U in conduct or a disciplinary referral.
- May be placed on probation for having three unexcused absences from NJHS meetings or service projects--excuse note must be provided to advisor for consideration within five days of absence.
- May be dismissed from the chapter for committing any offense classified by the FBISD Discipline Management Plan considered as being a Level 2 or above disciplinary offense.
- May be dismissed from the chapter by being placed at the district's disciplinary alternative education program/campus or expelled from school.
- May be dismissed from the chapter by having any documented incident of cheating and/or plagiarism.
- May be dismissed from the chapter by having any incident of computer violations.
- May be dismissed from the chapter by having any incident of dishonesty, vandalism, unethical and/or immoral behavior.

If you have any questions about the obligations of being an NJHS member or about the application process, please see one of the NJHS advisors or your principal.

Sincerely,
Miss Funesti & Mrs. Lovell
NJHS Advisers



National Junior Honor Society

Ronald Thornton Middle School

Welcome! We would like to congratulate you on your outstanding academic performance. This is the first step in your application process to be inducted as a member of the National Junior Honor Society. To be considered for membership, you must complete the following. Pay careful attention to instructions and deadlines. We have included a Candidate Selection Rubric on how you will be evaluated.

Student Activity Information Form. This form is two pages long. This must be printed neatly in blue or black ink. We recommend you make a copy of this form before you begin; you might make a mistake on the first try.

Letter of Recommendation. This must be a **one-page (250 words maximum)** letter from an adult in the community who knows you well. The letter must include the person's phone number and must be signed. The letter is to be submitted in a sealed envelope. This letter cannot be written by a Ronald Thornton Middle School staff member or one of your relatives. When requesting your letter, we recommend you ask the person to evaluate you on the five traits of NJHS: character, scholarship, leadership, service, and citizenship. Include this letter with your application when submitting.

Subjective Letter. This letter must be hand written by the student in business letter format. This is a **one-page letter (250 words maximum)** in which you show how you currently represent the characteristics of NJHS—character, scholarship, leadership, service, and citizenship--and how you can use these qualities to contribute to the overall success of the organization. Write neatly, it may not be typed.

Teacher Evaluations/Teacher Signature Form. You must have three of your teachers complete the teacher evaluation form attached. Two out of the three evaluations must be completed by a core teacher. **Fill in the blanks with your name, teacher name, and class period on the forms before handing them out.** As you give each teacher your evaluation, ask him or her to sign and date the appropriate box on the Teacher Signature Form verifying that they received it. The student will turn in the Teacher signature form with the application. Teachers will submit the recommendation forms directly to the advisers, so you will **not** include them in the packet you turn in to us. Please allow your teachers time to complete this evaluation by giving it to them as soon as possible. The last day to give evaluation forms to your teachers is **Tuesday, February 18th.** **Don't procrastinate!** An average of the three evaluation scores will determine your points earned for this category.

Ready to Submit. Staple all completed application materials you received from Miss Funesti and Mrs. Lovell. You will turn in all your paperwork together; the teacher evaluations will not be included in the stapled materials. Your completed file is due to Miss Funesti or Mrs. Lovell on or before **Friday, February 28th.** You will be given only one packet. If you lose any of the pages, you may find them on our NJHS website: <https://www.fortbendis.com/Domain/13431>.

Make sure you follow all directions exactly and pay close attention to deadlines. If you do not turn in all pieces by these dates, then you will not be considered for membership. Good luck. We wish you success in this and all your endeavors.

Miss Funesti & Mrs. Lovell

NJHS Adviser(s) for Ronald Thornton Middle School



National Junior Honor Society
Ronald Thornton Middle School

Candidate Selection Rubric

Student Name

Student Activity Sheet

At least one school activity each year (6 th , 7 th , & 8 th grade)	5 points
At least one community activity each year (5 th , 6 th , 7 th & 8 th grade)	5 points
At least one honor or award listed (5 th , 6 th , 7 th OR 8 th)	5 points
Additional activity listed in any of the three areas	5 points
Total Points Possible	20 points

Subjective Letter

Correct business letter format is used (one page; maximum 250 words)	5 points
Explain how you currently represent the characteristics of NJHS (1 point for each characteristic)	5 points
Explain how you can use your qualities to contribute to NJHS	5 points
Overall quality of writing (handwritten)	5 points
Total Points Possible	20 points

Letter of Recommendation

Total Points Possible	5 points
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Teacher Evaluations (Average of 3 evaluations)

Total Points Possible	25 points
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Citizenship

No referrals	10 points
1 minor referral (cell phone 3 rd time, tardy, etc.)	5 points
2 minor referrals or 1 major referral	0 points
No "N" or "U" in 7 th grade or 8 th grade T1-T3	5 points
One or more "N"s in 7 th grade or 8 th grade T1-T3	0 points
Total Points Possible	15 points

*You must score at least 70 points and be approved by the Faculty Council to be selected for initiation into NJHS. Completed applications do not guarantee initiation into NJHS.



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STUDENT ACTIVITY INFORMATION FORM

Directions: Please complete all sections. Do not be modest. This is your time to shine. Every bit of this information can be used to assist with the selection process. COMPLETION OF THIS FORM DOES NOT GUARANTEE SELECTION. Be sure to include this in your completed packet with the required signatures.

Print Neatly.

Student Name: _____

Parents' E-mail Address(es): _____

Your e-mail address: _____

(We send many reminders through email, Skyward, and/or Schoology.)

I. School Activities:

- A. List all activities in which you have participated in in school. Include:
 - (1) school clubs such as Student Council, Spanish Club, Art Club, etc.
 - (2) school sports' teams such as football, basketball, volleyball, etc.
 - (3) school activities such as Jump Rope for Heart, talent shows, etc.
- B. If you held an elected or appointed leadership position in these activities, tell which position you held (secretary, team captain, etc.).
- C. Mark the grade you were in when you took part in these activities. These can include 5th, 6th, 7th or 8th grade.

School Activity	Leadership Position (If any)	5 th Grade	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade

II. Community Activities:

- A. List any activities in which you participate outside of school. You may include church groups, clubs such as Boys or Girls Club, Boy or Girl Scouts, volunteer activities such as collecting money for charity, piano, gymnastics, dance, music groups, tutoring, etc.
- B. Mark the year in which you participated in these activities.

Community Activity	5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade

III. Recognition and Awards:

- A. List any honors or awards that you have received which would support your bid to be selected for membership in the National Junior Honor Society. Examples include, but are not limited to: All A honor roll, A/B honor roll, perfect attendance, reading or writing award, sports' awards, contest winner, church award, scouting award, etc.
- B. Indicate the year in which you received the award and tell the group or activity you were involved with.

Type of Honor or Award	Group or Activity	5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade

By my signature, I am representing that the information presented here is complete and accurate. I understand that completing this form does not guarantee selection to NJHS.

Student Signature

Date

I have read the information provided by my child on this form and can verify that it is true, accurate, and complete in its presentation.

Parent Signature

Date



National Junior Honor Society

Ronald Thornton Middle School

Dear NJHS Candidate: As you give each teacher your evaluation form, ask him or her to sign and date the appropriate boxes. This will verify they received your evaluation on time. You will turn this page in with your application. The teacher evaluations will be turned in by the teacher.

Before giving the evaluation over to your teacher: **Legibly** fill in the top blanks with your name, class period, & teacher name.

On the form below, fill in the class & teacher column before asking your teacher to sign and date. Two of the three evaluations must be completed by core teachers.

Prospective Student Member's Name: _____

TEACHER SIGNATURE FORM

Class & Teacher	Date Received	Teacher Signature



National Junior Honor Society

Ronald Thornton Middle School

TEACHER EVALUATION

Teacher: _____ Period: _____

_____ has been invited to join the Ronald Thornton Middle School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. As membership is based on more than scholarship alone, we are asking that you take a few moments and rate this student in each of the following five categories. The behaviors listed below each trait are merely guidelines to help you determine if the student meets the criteria for each one. Please use your best professional judgment. Thank you for your time.

- 1 – Poor
- 2 – Fair, Below Average
- 3 – Satisfactory, Average

- 4 – Above Average
- 5--Excellent

CHARACTER

1 2 3 4 5

- Displays an understanding of right/wrong
- Makes appropriate choices
- Treats others with respect

SCHOLARSHIP

1 2 3 4 5

- Displays academic effort
- Appreciates value of education
- Maintains high expectations of self

LEADERSHIP

1 2 3 4 5

- Displays actions of role model
- Leads by example
- Promotes school activities

SERVICE

1 2 3 4 5

- Displays willingness to help others
- Assists those around them
- Understands value of serving others

CITIZENSHIP

1 2 3 4 5

- Upholds school rules
- Displays appropriate behavior
- Appreciates spirit of community

Comments:

Teacher's Signature

Teacher--Please return to Miss Funesti or Mrs. Lovell by Friday, February 21.

Fort Bend Independent School District
National Junior Honor Society Chapters



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Appreciates value of education
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LEADERSHIP

Displays actions of role model
Leads by example
Promotes school activities

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SERVICE

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Assists those around them
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