

FORT SETTLEMENT M.S. NJHS

CHAPTER BYLAWS OF THE FORT SETTLEMENT NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society

Adopted: March 2025

ARTICLE 1: NAME

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

ARTICLE III: POWERS

Section 1. This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the NJHS National Constitution. See www.nhs.us/constitutions.

Section 2. The chapter adviser(s) is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal. In addition, the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members is given to an established 5-member Faculty Council.

Section 3. 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 Council 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. 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. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be in the second semester of the seventh 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 Fort Settlement Middle School.
- c. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative average of at least 90% in all classes. There will be no weighting of grades for GT/AAC classes or classes taken for high school credit

- d. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, grade average, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, character, and citizenship.

ARTICLE V: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$20 plus additional \$10 cost for the T-shirt. Dues will be payable to the chapter by the first monthly meeting in 8th grade.

Section 2. Student officers shall be elected by the first monthly meeting of each school year. 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 completed by secret electronic ballot. The candidate(s) with the highest number of votes for each position will be elected as an officer to this chapter.

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 and shall also keep a record of members' contributions to leadership and service.

Section 6. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep the minutes and attendance records for chapter meetings and records of business expenses, dues, and all other financial transactions of the chapter as directed by chapter adviser(s).

Section 7. The Public Relations officer shall maintain the image of FS NJHS, gain publicity for upcoming events and meetings, and disseminate information to members, the school, and the community as needed.

Section 8. The Special Events officer shall assist in the coordination of all chapter special events and recognitions that are determined throughout the year.

Section 9. Other officer positions may be created by the adviser(s) as deemed necessary based on the number of members in each year's FS NJHS. The duties of that position will be explained to the members prior to elections.

Section 10. 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. Any action by the executive committee is subject to the review of the chapter members.

ARTICLE VI: 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. This chapter shall conduct its meetings according to *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Section 3. Members are expected to attend all chapter meetings.

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ARTICLE VII: 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 complete ten (10) hours of service each semester. The hours must be documented and the documentation turned into the chapter adviser each semester. Service hours may not overlap with any other club or organization for which the student may be a member. No more than two (2) service hours can be accumulated at one event. Two of these hours must serve Fort Settlement Middle School.

Section 5. The chapter shall publicize and promote its projects in a positive manner.

ARTICLE VIII: 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 Fort Settlement chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. A member is expected to maintain his/her academic standing and take an active role in service and leadership in his/her school and community. **Section 2.** If a member's cumulative average falls below 90%, he/she will be given a written warning and a reasonable time period for improvement. If the cumulative average remains below 90% at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council that can include 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 or other academic dishonesty; defamation of character; 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 a 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 will be given the opportunity to respond to the charge(s) against him/her at a hearing before the

Faculty Council prior to any vote on dismissal. 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(s).
- 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 IX: RATIFICATION, APPROVAL, and REVIEW.

Section 1. These Bylaws will be approved upon receiving a majority affirmative vote of the Faculty Council, and approval by the administration.

Section 2. These Bylaws shall be reviewed and, if necessary, revised periodically from the last date of approval noted on this Document based on any changes set forth by the NJHS National Constitution and/or Fort Bend ISD requirements for membership.