

# ***National Junior Honor Society***



## **Liberty Junior High School Alex M. Martino Junior High School**

### **What is an Honor Society?**

Membership in the Liberty or Alex M. Martino chapters of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is the highest honor given to a middle school student and carries with it a distinction recognized nationwide. The organization seeks to create an enthusiasm for superior scholarship, develop citizenship, promote leadership, and instill exemplary qualities of character.

NJHS is more than just an honor roll. The Honor Society chapter establishes rules for membership that are based upon a student's outstanding performance in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, citizenship, and character. These criteria for selection form the foundation upon which the organization and its activities are built.

**Scholarship:** Students who have a cumulative grade point average of **4.00** or higher, following the second trimester of the current school year, have met the minimum requirement for scholarship.

**Leadership:** Student leaders are those who are resourceful, good problem solvers, idea-contributors, dependable, and persons who exemplify positive attitudes about life. Leadership experiences can be drawn from mature participation and responsibility gained through involvement with such activities as athletics, scouting, community organizations, and school clubs.

**Service:** This quality is defined through the voluntary contributions made by a student to the school or community, done without compensation and with a positive, courteous, and enthusiastic spirit.

**Citizenship:** The student who demonstrates citizenship understands the importance of civic involvement and has a high regard for freedom, justice, and democracy.

**Character:** The student of good character upholds principles of morality and ethics, is cooperative, demonstrates high standards of honesty and reliability, shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others, and generally maintains a positive lifestyle.

### **When do I become eligible?**

Seventh grade students who are selected for membership in NJHS are inducted during the third trimester; they will serve as active NJHS members for their eighth grade year. Eighth grade students who are selected for membership in NJHS may be inducted as honorary NJHS members during the third trimester. Membership in NJHS is a junior high honor; it does not transfer to the National Honor Society (NHS) at the secondary level.

## **What requirements do I have to meet in order to be considered for membership in the National Junior Honor Society? Adjusted for 2021-22 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.**

- Maintain a cumulative GPA of **4.00** or higher.
- Be a leader - participate in community/school activities, athletics, or school clubs. The minimum requirement to be considered for membership in NJHS is active participation in at least one activity. (Active participation is defined as attendance/involvement in at least 80% of the meetings, practices, or games related to the activity. Activities can be either school offered sports/clubs/activities or non-school related activities. For this special COVID-19 Application Packet, students may include activities from this school year as well as last school year. In addition, this year, parents **MAY** sign off on clubs/activities to indicate participation. Please consult the NJHS advisor with any questions.
- Provide service to your school/community. The minimum requirement to be considered for membership in NJHS is having provided at least five hours of service to either the school or community. Complete the NJHS service hours log with service hours you have obtained this school year or last school year. If possible, please obtain the signature of the supervisor/sponsor for the activity. If that is not possible, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, parents **MAY** sign off on obtained service hours.
- Demonstrate positive citizenship. School administrators and the NJHS Council will consider your discipline record as evidence of your citizenship. For citizenship, students receiving an office referral or four or more classroom steps, will not be eligible for NJHS.
- Demonstrate strong character in the classroom/school environment. For character, students receiving four or more late and/or missing assignments will not be eligible for NJHS.

## **What process do I follow to be considered for membership in NJHS?**

After receiving your second trimester report card showing you have earned a cumulative GPA of 4.00 or higher, please complete an evidence packet for the faculty council to consider in order to determine acceptance to NJHS. The evidence packets are available in the school office, school website or from the NJHS faculty advisor. PLEASE be aware that evidence packets are due **no later than** Friday, March 11, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. late packets will NOT be considered.

## **How is membership for NJHS determined?**

Students who earn eleven or more points on the NJHS Evaluation Rubric and have been recommended by the staff council will be considered for induction as members of NJHS. The NJHS advisor is not a member of the faculty council; the advisor acts as liaison between the student and the faculty council.

## **How and when am I notified that I have been selected to be inducted as a member of NJHS?**

A congratulatory letter along with an invitation for your family to attend the Induction Ceremony will be sent home within two weeks of the final due date for the evidence packet. Specific reasons may be given; however, the NJHS sponsor shall provide recommendations for future NJHS consideration.

**What happens after I am selected to be in NJHS?**

You are expected to attend an Induction Ceremony where you will commit to the ideals of the National Junior Honor Society and accept the responsibility associated with membership. You will receive a certificate commemorating this special honor.

**How and when am I notified that I have not been selected to be inducted as a member of NJHS?**

You will receive a letter stating you were not selected for membership in NJHS within two weeks of the final due date for the evidence packet.

**Is there an appeal process if I am not selected to be inducted as a member of NJHS?**

Students who wish to appeal the decision of the faculty council may submit an appeal in writing to the principal within one week of being notified of non-selection. (Students are required to submit the appeal, not the parents) Per the NJHS Constitution, Section 4.4.2, the principal may ask the faculty council to reconvene to review the situation. Decisions jointly made by the faculty council and principal are then final.

**What if I do not maintain the ideals of NJHS after induction?**

It is expected that active members of NJHS continually strive for excellence in scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character. If the ideals within any of these categories fall below what is expected, the member will be placed on a probationary status. Parents/Guardians will receive written notification when a student is placed on probationary status.

- (G.P.A) If your G.P.A falls below 4.0, you must bring your grades up by the timeline determined in your probation letter otherwise you would be dismissed.
- (Citizenship/Character) If you receive an office referral OR more than two steps OR more than two late/missing assignments, you will be on probation status. Any further discretions, you would be dismissed.

**Why is membership in the NJHS considered such a great honor?**

Schools throughout the country participate in the National Junior Honor Society. If inducted, you are a member of a select group of young people who are considered the best and brightest in your school. You have the admiration of friends and family and should take great pride in this outstanding accomplishment.

Mrs. Jennifer Clark, Liberty NJHS Advisor

Mrs. Dottie Presutti, Martino NJHS Advisor

2022-2023  
National Junior Honor Society  
Modified Requirement/Evidence Packet due to COVID-19

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



All packets are due **no later than** Friday, March 11, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.

Please proofread before you submit your evidence packet. Late and/or incomplete packets will not be accepted.

The applicant must fill out all information in order to be considered for membership.

Any questions must come from the applicant and **not** parents/guardians.

Mrs. Jennifer Clark, Liberty NJHS Advisor  
jclark@nlsd122.org

Mrs. Dottie Presutti, Martino NJHS Advisor  
dpresutti@nlsd122.org

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Scholarship

What is your current **cumulative** GPA from your **Trimester 2** report card? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you in any Accelerated courses?                      Yes                      No                      (Circle one answer)

If yes, then complete the "Adjusted Accelerated GPA Calculation" section below. If no, please skip to the "Leadership" section.

#### Adjusted Accelerated GPA Calculation:

Please circle the accelerated classes you have:

Accel Language Arts              Accel Reading Seminar              Accel Math                      Algebra

In order to recognize the efforts and rigor in accelerated courses, an NJHS factor will be added to the total GPA, for each accelerated course. Below are the values to be **added to the cumulative GPA listed on the trimester 2 report card**:

- Students with one Accelerated Course = Add .050 to the cumulative GPA
- Students with two Accelerated Courses = Add .075 to the cumulative GPA
- Students with three Accelerated Courses = Add .100 to the cumulative GPA

Please list your Adjusted Accelerated GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

### Leadership

Please list all activities in which you are an active participant; include all athletics, scouting, community organizations, and school clubs, which are current.

- Activities from this school year and last school year are considered current.
- Active participation is defined as attendance/involvement in at least **80%** of the meetings, practices, or games related to the activity.
- Paid private lessons for music, voice, specific athletic skills, etc. **ARE** considered activities that demonstrate leadership.
- Liberty/Martino Band and Orchestra **ARE** considered a leadership activity.
- Religious Education/Youth Ministry, etc. is **not** considered an activity of leadership.
- Camps and performances (music/dance recitals) also are **not** considered an activity of leadership.
- Parent signature **MAY** be accepted as sponsor signature due to the COVID-19 pandemic..

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name/Activity/Club that you have participated this year or last school year	Parent/Guardian or Sponsor Signature	Has the student attended 80% of all meetings? (Yes/No)

### **Service**

Please complete the attached NJHS Service Hours log. How many total hours of community service have you provided this school year and last school year?

Less than 5

5 - 9

10 - 14

15 or more

### **Citizenship**

Please circle, to the best of your knowledge, how many overall classroom steps you received this school year.

None

1 - 2

3 or more

How many office referrals have you received this school year?

None

1 or more

### **Character**

Circle the number of missing/late assignments for Trimesters 1 & 2 this school year. \_\_\_\_\_

None

1

2-3

4 or more

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## NJHS SERVICE HOURS

Service is defined through the voluntary contributions made by a student to the school or community, done without compensation and with a positive, courteous, and enthusiastic spirit; please see the attached list for suggestions on ways you can provide service. Service hours should be provided from what you participated in last school year or this school year. You should track your hours on this form; hours need to be approved by a parent/guardian or sponsor signature. Camps only count if you were a volunteer, not a participant.

Date	Activity/Service	Hours	Parent/Guardian or Sponsor Signature
	<b>TOTAL HOURS =</b>		

## Community Service Suggestions

Service is defined through the voluntary contributions made by a student to the school or community, done without compensation and with a positive, courteous, and enthusiastic spirit. This list is a compilation of activities students have used in the past and does not necessarily exclude other activities. Please see your NJHS advisor if you have any questions.

### Community Service Suggestions:

- Service through the Boy/Girl Scouts
- Vacation Bible School volunteer
- Rake-n-Run
- Organizing a food drive
- Serving meals at a soup kitchen/homeless shelter (Daybreak/Morning Star Mission)
- Organizing a *Toys for Tots* campaign
- Fundraising for a group or organization
- Any walks or runs to raise money for an organization
- Math-a-thon (St. Jude's Children's Hospital)
- Volunteering at a Hospice
- Park District volunteer
- Lions Club Christmas Breakfast volunteer
- Setting up an Easter Egg Hunt in the community
- Assisting children with special needs at Sparky Soccer Clinic
- Volunteering at a community fun fair
- Volunteering at an animal shelter (PAWS, NAWS, Humane Society, etc.)
- Write cards to nursing home residents who can't have visitors
- Perform outdoor yard work for local residents in need
- Make bookmarks for your library
- Collect hotel-sized toiletries to donate to a local shelter
- Collect pet food for the Meals on Wheels AniMeals program
- Decorate paper lunch bags with inspirational messages and quotes for the local senior center or Meals on Wheels
- Paint rocks with inspirational messages and leave them around your neighborhood or donate to a local organization such as the library
- Start a lending library
- Write letters to overseas soldiers
- Decorate the covers of blank composition notebooks or one subject notebooks for organizations like Children's Safe Harbor ([childrenssafeharbor.org](http://childrenssafeharbor.org))
- Make dog and cat toys for an animal shelter
- Decorate cards for Angel Tree ([prisonfellowship.org/about/angel-tree/](http://prisonfellowship.org/about/angel-tree/))
- Tutor students on Zoom
- Become a volunteer writer for a community magazine
- Sew cloth masks or make headbands with buttons for masks
- Make no-sew blankets to donate to a local shelter or for Project Linus ([www.projectlinus.org](http://www.projectlinus.org))
- Read to local children on Zoom
- Become a digital volunteer for the Smithsonian (<https://www.si.edu/volunteer/DigitalVolunteers>)
- Make and deliver sack lunches for a food pantry



- Pick up trash on walks around your community
- Write letters to local hospital staff
- Deliver food for Meals on Wheels
- Knit hats, blankets, bears and more for organizations in need  
([themakeyourownzone.com/knitting-for-charity-10-ways-to-donate](http://themakeyourownzone.com/knitting-for-charity-10-ways-to-donate))
- Narrate or listen to audiobooks ([learningally.org/Get-Involved/Volunteer-Opportunities](http://learningally.org/Get-Involved/Volunteer-Opportunities))
- Adopt a grandparent  
(<https://www.iheart.com/content/2020-03-26-nursing-home-lets-you-adopt-a-lonely-grandparent-in-isolation>)
- Find other local volunteer opportunities ([volunteermatch.org](http://volunteermatch.org))
- Be a virtual volunteer for the Library of Congress (<https://crowd.loc.gov/>)
- Yard maintenance at home or family member

**\*\*\* For the 2021-2022 school year these will be accepted due to the COVID situation. \*\*\***

- Babysitting (at no charge) for family member

**\*\*\* For the 2021-2022 school year these will be accepted due to the COVID situation. \*\*\***

- Any voluntary work for family members

# NJHS Evaluation Rubric

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Pillars	*Does not meet minimum requirement	1 point	2 points	3 points
Scholarship GPA (Student)		4.000-4.0499	4.0500-4.1499	4.1500 or above
Leadership	0 activities	1 activity	2 activities	3 or more activities
Service Documented Hours (Student)	Less than 5 hours in the past school year or this school year combined	At least 5 hours in the past school year or this school year combined	At least 10 hours in the past school year or this school year combined	15 or more hours in the past school year or this school year combined
Citizenship/ Character (Administrators)	Office Referral or 4 or more class steps	No office referral, 3 or more class steps	No office referral, 1 - 2 classroom steps	No infractions
Academic Responsibility (Administrators)	4 or more late/missing assignments	2-3 late/missing assignments	1 late/missing assignment	No late/missing assignments.

\* Receiving a zero in any of the five pillars indicates the minimum criteria for NJHS has not been met. A minimum of 11 points must be met.

Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_