

## National Junior Honor Society

The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) officially established NJHS in 1929, eight years after it founded the National Honor Society for high school students. Under the leadership of Dr. Edward Rynearson, principal of the Fifth Avenue High School in Pittsburgh, the organization grew from the original Alpha Chapter at the Fifth Avenue School to more than 1,000 chapters by 1930. Equipped with a constitution, an emblem and motto, and a group of dedicated principals as coordinators, the new NJHS organization quickly developed into one of the country's leading educational groups.

Five main purposes have guided chapters of NJHS from the beginning: to create enthusiasm for scholarship; to stimulate a desire to render service; to promote leadership; to encourage responsible citizenship; and to develop character in the students of secondary schools.

These purposes also translate into the criteria used for membership selection in each local chapter.

### **Cypress lake Middle School Criteria for Membership selection:**

- Students meeting a cumulative middle school GPA of 3.8, or higher, through second semester of their grade 7 school year
- Students with no history of disciplinary referrals
- Students that received a recommendation from at least one grade 6, grade 7, or elective teacher regarding the student's leadership and character.

Students meeting these criteria will be "Tapped" for invitation to join CLMS National Junior Honor Society during the third quarter of their grade 7 school year.

## Tapping for Invitation

At the Tapping ceremony, eligible grade 7 students are escorted by current grade 8 NJHS members to an invitation meeting. At the meeting the facilitator/sponsor will introduce the following standards and expectations for all NJHS members.

NJHS Members are expected to adhere to the following formal obligations as delineated in the National Constitution as well as established by Cypress Lake Middle School NJHS.

**Maintain NJHS Standards:** It is expected that NJHS members shall consistently meet or exceed the following standards to keep from jeopardizing your membership with CLMS National Junior Honor Society:

- ✚ **Leadership:** You were recommended for your positive role in class and at all Cypress Lake Middle School events.
- ✚ **Scholarly Achievement:** Your GPA is expected to be maintained or higher.
- ✚ **Service:** All members are expected to participate in all NJHS Service Projects and perform a minimum of 1 hour of service each month.
- ✚ **Character:** You were recommended by your teachers based on your strong moral fiber, conscience, choices, and high standards for yourself.
- ✚ **Citizenship:** Good citizens work together for betterment of all lives.
- ✚ **Meeting Attendance:** Attendance is **mandatory** for Cypress Lake Middle School NJHS members. All members are expected to attend our one meeting each month. We meet the last Tuesday of each month from 8:45-9:30. If you are a bus rider, please try to make other arrangements those mornings.

Students will be given an application for membership into NJHS and a timeline for return.

**Induction:**

When a CLMS Student has returned their National Junior Honor Society Application, they are given an invitation to the Induction Ceremony

Students are given an **NJHS Obligation of Membership** to share with their family and to pledge their agreement.

**Probation:**

- Leadership/Character Probation: If a current NJHS Student receives a Panther Card signature or a referral, the Sponsor is in immediate contact with the student's Assistant Principal and parents to determine if the offense requires a period of probation form NJHS.
- Academic Probation: If a NJHS Student's GPA significantly drops during the semester, the Sponsor is in immediate contact with the student's Assistant Principal and parents to determine what kind of academic assistance and focus is required to support academic excellence.