

# **The WAJerian Chapter of the Junior National Honor Society and National Honor Society**

## **SELECTION PROCEDURES**

1. The academic records of students in grades 7-12 will be reviewed by the guidance department following the end of the second semester. Students with a cumulative GPA of 90% or higher in a regular program of study will be scholastically eligible for JNHS or NHS membership. A student must be enrolled at The Windham Ashland Jewett Central School for at least one full semester to be considered for JNHS or NHS Membership.

2. Academically eligible students will be notified by a letter that will be distributed during the school day.

3. The WAJ faculty/staff will evaluate each potential member in the areas of leadership, service, character and citizenship on a scale from 0-4  
Please note that candidates are compared with the entire student body, not with other candidates on the list and the cutoff point for acceptance has been predetermined.

4. According to national guidelines, students are selected for membership by a Faculty Council consisting of at least five members that have been selected by the Building Principal. Selection will be based on the following five criteria: scholarship, leadership, service, character, and citizenship. During the selection process each member of the WAJ Faculty Council will take into account a candidate's grade- point average, leadership positions held, volunteer activities in and /or outside of school, overall attitude/behavior, and involvement in school and community activities. The specific characteristics that are expected from members are listed under JNHS/NHS Selection Criteria on pages 2 and 3 of this document. These characteristics will also be considered. Evaluations from the faculty/staff will be reviewed by council members as well. Selection for membership in the Junior National Honor Society and National Honor Society is an award from the faculty and is similar to any other scholarship or award in that it is a privilege and not a right of any student. In order to demonstrate achievement in the areas of leadership, service, character, and citizenship, potential members must:

- (1) Complete a Student Activity Information Form
- (2) Be rated in each area by faculty/staff members
- (3) Be interviewed by the Faculty Council
- (4) Provide written references when requested

5. Candidates receiving a majority vote from the Faculty Council will be inducted into The WAJerian Chapter of the JNHS or NHS. Please note, JNHS advisor(s) and NHS advisor(s) are not permitted to vote.

6. All students will be notified in writing regarding the decision of the Faculty Council.

7. Once selected, members MUST maintain JNHS/NHS standards.

## **JNHS/NHS Selection Criteria**

**Leadership**     The student who exercises leadership:

1. Is resourceful in proposing new problems, applying principles, and asking questions
2. Demonstrates initiative in promoting activities
3. Exercises influence on peers in upholding school ideals
4. Contributes ideas that improve the civic life of the school
5. Is able to delegate responsibilities
6. Exemplifies positive attitudes
7. Inspires positive behavior in others
8. Demonstrates academic initiative
9. Successfully holds offices or positions of responsibility, conducting business effectively and efficiently, and without prodding, demonstrates reliability and dependability
10. Is a forerunner in the classroom, at work, and in school or community activities
11. Is thoroughly dependable in any responsibility accepted.

**Service**             The student who serves:

1. Is willing to uphold scholarship and maintain a loyal school attitude
2. Participates in some outside activity: Girl Scouts; Boy Scouts; church groups; volunteer services for the aged, poor, or disadvantaged; family duties
3. Volunteers dependable and well-organized assistance, is gladly available, and is willing to sacrifice to offer assistance
4. Works well with others and is willing to take on difficult or inconspicuous responsibilities
5. Cheerfully and enthusiastically renders any requested service to the school
6. Is willing to represent the class or school in inter-class and interscholastic competition
7. Completes committee and staff work without complaint
8. Show courtesy by assisting visitors, teachers, and students.

**Character**         The student of character:

1. Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously
2. Consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior (cheerfulness, friendliness, poise, stability)
3. Upholds principles of morality and ethics
4. Cooperates by complying with school regulations concerning property, programs, office, halls, etc.
5. Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty and reliability
6. Shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others
7. Observes instructions and rules, punctuality, and faithfulness both inside and outside the classroom
8. Has powers of concentration and sustained attention as shown by perseverance and application to studies
9. Manifests truthfulness in acknowledging obedience to rules, avoiding cheating in written work, and showing unwillingness to profit by the mistakes of others
10. Actively helps rid the school of bad influences or environment.

**Citizenship** The student of citizenship:

1. Understands the importance of civic involvement
2. Has a high regard for freedom, justice, and respect for the American form of government
3. Demonstrates mature participation and responsibility through involvement with such activities as scouting, community organizations, and school clubs.<sup>33</sup>

National guidelines prohibit any type of quota system for selection. There is no set number or percent of students who will be selected each year. Final decisions as to selection and non-selection are the determination of the JNHS/ NHS Faculty Council (with input from the information gathered from each candidate as well as from input from the faculty). A majority vote of the Faculty Council is necessary for selection. The adviser(s) and principal have no vote. Decisions of the Faculty Council are final, as per the National Constitution.

According to national guidelines, “Chapters are not legally or constitutionally obligated to share with parents and students information concerning specific students not selected for membership in the Society.” It is the practice of the Windham Ashland Jewett Central School that all information used by the advisers and Faculty Council during the selection process will remain confidential.