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National Junior Honor Society  
Maple Place Middle School  
2 Maple Place  
Oceanport, NJ 07757

October 10, 2018



Dear Parents and Guardians,

The National Junior Honor Society chapter of Maple Place Middle School is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization. Membership is open to those students who meet the required standards in five areas of evaluation: scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. Students are selected for membership by majority vote of a five-member principal-appointed faculty council, which bestows this honor upon qualified students on behalf of the faculty of our school each spring.

Students in grades seven and eight are eligible for membership. For the scholarship criterion, a student must have a cumulative GPA of 92% or better in their mathematics, social studies, science, literature, and language arts classes. Each spring, those students who meet this criterion are invited to complete an application that provides the faculty council with information regarding the candidate's leadership, character, citizenship, and service.

Once the student has been offered an application, he or she must provide documentation of demonstrated leadership. Leadership roles can be elected positions such as in student council, athletic team captains, section leaders in band or choir, committee chairs in community groups such as Scouts, and/or religious organizations. The national organization clarifies that a student exercises leadership when he/she:

- is resourceful in proposing new solutions
- demonstrates initiative in promoting school activities
- exercises positive influence on peers upholding school ideals and spirit
- contributes ideas that improve the civic life of the school
- is able to delegate responsibilities, inspires positive behaviors in others,
- demonstrates academic initiative
- successfully holds school offices or positions of responsibility
- demonstrates reliability and dependability

Applicants must also demonstrate that they have participated in community service projects during their year of application. Students must provide documentation to show that they have completed community service with an established organization (i.e; school clubs, religious groups, Scouts, camps, etc). All hours are subject to review by the principal and faculty council.

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An applicant must also demonstrate good character and citizenship. A person of character demonstrates the following six categories: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. Any behavioral infractions will be considered on a case by case basis by the faculty council. Applicants must provide three recommendations of good character. A recommendation of good character and citizenship will attest that the student:

- consistently exemplifies positive and desirable qualities of behavior
- cooperates by complying with school policies and codes of conduct
- takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously
- demonstrates the highest standards of honesty, academic integrity, and reliability
- regularly exhibits courtesy, concern, and respect for others
- complies with instructions and rules and displays responsibility

Members of the faculty council are solicited for input regarding their professional reflections on a candidate's service activities, character, citizenship, and leadership. All applications are carefully reviewed by the faculty council to determine membership. A majority vote of the council is necessary for selection. Candidates are notified regarding selection or non-selection according to a predetermined schedule.

Following notification, a formal induction ceremony is held at the school to recognize all the newly selected members. Once inducted, new members are required to maintain the same level of performance (or better) in all four criteria that led to their selection.

The forms needed to document leadership opportunities, community service hours, and the character references can be found on the NJHS page of the school website. Students are encouraged to begin using these forms now to document their experiences if they think they may qualify to apply this spring. Please note that we are obligated to uphold the expectations established by the national organization. The guidelines set forth above must be strictly followed to be considered for membership in the National Junior Honor Society.

Sincerely,

*Patricia Reginio*

Advisor