



## Austin Preparatory School National Junior Honor Society Chapter Bylaws

Adopted at meetings of the Faculty Council on January 30, 2013 and May 2, 2013

### ARTICLE I: Name

The name of this chapter shall be the Austin Preparatory School National Junior Honor Society.

### ARTICLE II: Purpose

The purpose of this chapter shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership and citizenship, and to encourage the development of character in students of Austin Preparatory School.

### ARTICLE III: Powers

**Section 1.** This chapter operates under the direction of, and in full compliance with, the NJHS National Constitution, viewable at [www.nhs.us/constitutions](http://www.nhs.us/constitutions).

**Section 2.** The chapter adviser and co-adviser are given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

**Section 3.** Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.

**Section 4.** 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, sexual orientation, 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 and shall be based on the criteria of Scholarship, Service, Leadership, Citizenship, and Character.

**Section 2.** Membership in this chapter shall be known as active, honorary, and alumni. Active members become alumni members at graduation of eighth grade. 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 first semester of seventh or eighth grade.
- b) To be eligible for selection into membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been enrolled for at least one full year at Austin Preparatory School.
- c) Candidates eligible for selection into the chapter shall have a minimum grade point average of 3.75 within the previous school year.
- d) Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and grade average standards, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, citizenship, and character.

#### ARTICLE V: Selection of Members

**Section 1.** The selection of members into this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council which consists of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser (and co-adviser when applicable) shall be additional, nonvoting members of the Faculty Council.

**Section 2.** The selection of active members shall be held once a year at the beginning of the first semester of the school year.

**Section 3.** Prior to the final selection, the following shall occur:

- a) Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b) All students who are eligible scholastically shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the Candidate's Form for further consideration.
- c) The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official evaluation form provided by the chapter adviser and co-adviser.
- d) The Faculty Council shall review the Candidate Forms, faculty evaluations and other relevant information to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership.

**Section 4.** Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

**Section 5.** An active member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers from Austin Preparatory School will be given an official letter indicating the status of his/her membership.

**Section 6.** An active member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers to Austin Preparatory School will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter. The Faculty Council shall grant to the transferring member one semester to attain the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain his/her membership.

#### ARTICLE VI: Obligations of Members

**Section 1.** There will be no annual dues.

**Section 2.** Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall be granted the privilege to wear the emblem adopted by the National Junior Honor Society.

**Section 3.** Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall have the privilege of wearing the emblem to the chapter revoked.

#### ARTICLE VII: Officers

**Section 1.** The officers of the chapter shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Public Relations.

**Section 2.** Student officers shall be elected at the first meeting of the 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 by secret ballot. A majority vote shall be necessary to elect any officer of this chapter. If the first vote does not yield a majority, a second vote shall be taken of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

**Section 4.** It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of the chapter.