

# **SMS NJHS Selection Process**

First, in order to be eligible for membership the candidate must be enrolled as a member of the eighth grade at Seminole Middle School.

The NJHS Advisor then runs a list of all eighth grade potential candidates', which is generated by a Pinellas County computer query, to find out which students have met the required academic criteria for National Junior Honor Society. A minimum overall cumulative grade point average of 3.5(not rounded) is required as a prerequisite for membership in all Pinellas County School's National Junior Honor Societies. The grade point average is calculated based on the end-of-year final grades for sixth and seventh grade combined.

Next, the students who qualify academically are notified in writing by the NJHS Advisor. At that time, students are invited by the NJHS Advisor to complete and submit a CANDIDATE INFORMATION SUBMISSION FORM (CIS) back to the NJHS Advisor.

Simultaneously, the NJHS Advisor collects two other forms of data for the SMS Faculty Council to review in order to further evaluate a candidate's leadership, service/citizenship, and character. First, school disciplinary records are reviewed. Candidates with two or more referrals will not be selected for membership in NJHS by the Faculty Council. However, if a candidate has a documented condition affecting behavior on an IEP or 504, special considerations will be taken by the Faculty Council in the number of referrals which can be received by the candidate. Second, the entire SMS staff is solicited by the NJHS Advisor for input regarding their professional comments on a candidate's leadership, service, and character. On a survey, staff must rate students they have directly taught or advised in a club or service activity on a four point scale. Each candidate must score an average of 3.5 or above in each of the three categories mentioned to continue to be considered in the selection process.

Next, all potential candidates who turn in a CANDIDATE INFORMATION SUBMISSION FORM (CIS) by the required deadline, are reviewed by the SMS Faculty Council. The selection of each member to the chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council. The final decision on membership is then made by the SMS NJHS Faculty Council consistent with the SMS Yaholi Chapter By-laws and the rules and regulations of the National Junior Honor Society.

Finally, the NJHS Advisor notifies all candidates who submitted the CANDIDATE INFORMATION SUBMISSION FORM of their selection or non-selection. All applicants will be notified in writing of their status in the selection process. Candidates selected for membership in NJHS will be then expected to attend the NJHS Induction Ceremony and a rehearsal for the event prior.

**The chapter is governed in all matters by the rules, regulations, and Constitution of the National Junior Honor Society. "Membership in the National Junior Honor Society is both an honor and a responsibility. No student has a right to belong to the National Junior Honor Society. Students selected for membership are expected to continue to demonstrate the qualities of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship" (NJHS Handbook, 1992 edition, page 13).**