

National Junior Honor Society

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is National Junior Honor Society?

National Junior Honor Society or NJHS is an organization in middle schools throughout the United States. NJHS is a prestigious organization with a reputation for excellence by recognizing students with high academic achievement and encouraging their leadership and service activities.

2. Who oversees NJHS at PHMS?

Ms. Vogus is the advisor for the PHMS chapter of NJHS. Ms. Vogus is the 7th Grade School Counselor and she is located in the 7th Grade Office (upstairs in Building 5). You can email Ms. Vogus at VogusL@pcsb.org any time you have NJHS questions!

3. Why should I be in NJHS?

Being a NJHS member is evidence of a student's academic achievements, leadership qualities, service initiative, and exceptional character. Therefore, membership in NJHS is beneficial for applications to high school magnets or programs, jobs and even college! Volunteering through NJHS also helps our students network with organizations so they can remain volunteers and earn hours towards the Bright Future Scholarships!

4. What is the NJHS application process?

First, we start with an information meeting where students will receive the application packet and hear an explanation of the NJHS application process. The application will need signatures from 6th or 7th grade teachers who recommend the candidate and a short essay explaining why the student believes they are a good candidate for NJHS. Applications will be accepted until the due date stated on the application. Applicants will be accepted based on their essay, teacher recommendations, behavioral record, and current cumulative GPA. Students must not have earned any discipline referrals and may not be accepted if they have earned N or U marks in conduct. The PHMS chapter has determined that at least a 3.5 GPA will be required.

5. What do I have to do to remain in NJHS?

NJHS students must be currently in 8th grade and maintain the required cumulative GPA throughout middle school, including all of 8th grade. NJHS students must also complete at least 20 hours of volunteer work during the 8th grade year. The national committee also requires dues paid for NJHS membership, the amount which will be decided at the start of the 8th grade year. Students must maintain good behavioral standing throughout middle school as well. Discipline referrals can result in dismissal from NJHS.

6. What counts for volunteer hours?

NJHS students can work with many local organizations as well as help with many campus activities, such as setting up dances and school fundraisers! Students who help with organizations outside of school (such as religious organizations, community sports teams, girl or boy scouts, etc.) can count their volunteering towards NJHS service hours. Please note - transportation to and from volunteering events is not provided.

7. What does NOT count for volunteer hours?

Membership in other school organizations cannot be counted again for NJHS volunteering hours. Events such as setting up musical concerts, helping at AVID panther fest or helping other clubs are done for those organizations and will not count again in NJHS. Helping teachers in classrooms is also not able to be counted as volunteer hours.

8. Does being in NJHS mean I will automatically be in National Honor Society in high school?

No, there will be a separate application for NHS in high school and being an NJHS member is not a prerequisite. If students are unable to be in NJHS in middle school, they are still eligible for NHS in high school.