**Alice Buffett Magnet Middle School National Junior Honor Society By-Laws**

**Article l**

**Name of Organization and Purpose**

**Section 1**-The name of the chapter shall be the Alice Buffett Magnet Middle School National Junior Honor Society.

**Section 2**- The purpose of the organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, to develop character, and to encourage citizenship in the students of Alice Buffett Magnet Middle School.

**Article ll**

**Powers of Organization**

**Section 1**- The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

**Section 2**- The Faculty Council shall consist of two advisors and members of the NJHS committee (no fewer than 5 members). No principal or assistant principal may be included in the Faculty Council.

**Section 3**- The Faculty Council shall be responsible for the direct, day to day supervision of the chapter and act as liaison between faculty, administration, students and community.

**Section 4** – The Faculty Council shall regularly review each member for compliance with Society standards and obligations.

**Section 5**- The Faculty Council develops and revises, when necessary, all chapter procedures, disciplining and dismissal of members.

**Section 6**- The Faculty Council reserves the right to amend by-laws.

**Article lll**

**Membership of Organization**

**Section 1**-Membership in local chapters is an honor bestowed upon deserving students. Selection for membership is by the Faculty Council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, service, and citizenship. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

**Section 2**- The Faculty Council reserves the right to award honorary membership to school officials, principals, teachers, NJHS advisors, or adults in recognition of outstanding service rendered to the school in keeping with the purpose of the National Junior Honor Society.

**Article lV**

**Selection of Members**

**Section 1**- The selection of members to this chapter shall be determined by the Faculty Council based on input from grade level teams.

**Section 2**- Prior to selection, the following will occur:

1. Students’ academic records will be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
2. Students who are eligible scholastically shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the student information form by the due date, for further consideration for selection.
3. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the Faculty Evaluation form (hard copy or computerized) provided by the Faculty Council.
4. The Faculty Council shall review the candidate input forms and the faculty evaluations in order to determine membership.

**Section 3-** To be eligible for membership, candidates must be a student in the seventh or eighth grades.

**Section 4-** Candidates must have been at the school at least one full semester.

**Section 5-**Candidates must have cumulative GPA of 3.75 at the end of the first semester.

**Section 6-**Selection for membership is based on scholarship, citizenship, character, leadership and service.

**Section 7-**In order to become a member of NJHS, candidates must be inducted at a special ceremony.

**Section 8-** A National Junior Honor Society member who transfers from another school and brings a letter from the former principal or chapter advisor to the new school advisor shall be automatically accepted as a member in the school’s chapter. Transfer members must meet the chapter’s standards within one semester in order to retain membership.

**Section 9-** Members who resign or are dismissed are never eligible for National Junior Honor Society membership or its benefits.

**Article V**

**Discipline and Dismissal**

**Section 1**- The procedure for dismissal shall be determined by the Faculty Council in compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Junior Honor Society.

**Section 2**- Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, character, citizenship, leadership, or service which were basis for their selection, may be dismissed from the Alice Buffett Magnet Middle School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society.

**Section 3**- If the member’s academic status falls below the 3.85 GPA standard, he/she will be given a reasonable amount of time for improvement. The member shall be promptly warned in writing by the chapter advisor. If the member’s academic status remains below the 3.75 GPA at the end of that time, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council that may include dismissal from the chapter deficiency. In the case of flagrant violations of school rules, a member does not necessarily have to be warned; a member who is suspended is automatically dismissed unless overruled by a unanimous vote of the Faculty Council.

**Section 4**- No student who has been suspended from school during the current school year will be invited to be a member of NJHS unless there is a unanimous vote of the Faculty Council.

**Section 5**- No student who has been suspended or in PAC (Positive Action Center) or who has had excessive visits to the office during the current school year is eligible to be a candidate unless there is a unanimous vote by the Faculty Council.

**Section 6**- Violation of the law or school regulations can result in dismissal of a member. These violations include, but are not limited to stealing, destruction of property, cheating, fighting, or bullying.

**Section 7**- In all cases of pending dismissal:

1. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the advisor. The member and advisor will discuss the written notification in a conference. Situations that involve flagrant violations of school rules or the law can warrant disciplinary action without a written warning although a formal meeting must still take place.
2. The member will be given opportunity to respond to the charge against him/her at the formal meeting before the Faculty Council prior to the vote on dismissal. The member has the opportunity to respond to the charge in writing or in person. The Faculty Council will then vote in private session whether to dismiss. A majority vote of the Faculty Council is needed to dismiss any member.
3. The results of the Faculty Council vote will be reviewed by the principal, and then if confirmed, expressed in a letter sent to the student/parents.
4. The Faculty Council’s decision may be appealed to the building principal.
5. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he/she is no longer a member and may never again be considered for membership in the National Junior Honor Society.

**Section 8**- In lieu of dismissal, the Faculty Council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

**Article Vl**

**Chapter Officers**

**Section 1-** The officers shall be president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and public relations.

**Section 2-** Candidates for office will be nominated and voted on by the chapter membership.

**Section 3-** The election of the officers shall be as follows: Members nominate themselves or others for the office sought. If the nomination for office exceeds 5 nominees, a preliminary vote shall to be taken and the top 5 vote getters shall be on the final ballot.

**Section 4-** The majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to elect any officer. The chapter advisors shall count the votes.

**Section 5-** It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings for the chapter with the assistance from the chapter advisors.

**Section 6-** The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president and shall assist the president in organizing the meetings.

**Section 7-** The secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence.

**Section 8-** The treasurer shall keep the record of the chapter expenses and all financial transactions of the chapter. The treasurer must be present at all fundraisers.

**Section 9-** The public relations officer is responsible for the media record of the chapter. This may include photographs and/or video of chapter activities. He/she will be responsible for the upkeep of the NJHS display case and school newspaper articles with the help of advisor.

**Section 10-** The Executive Committee is composed of the chapter officers and Faculty Council.

**Article Vll**

**Executive Committee**

**Section 1-** The Executive Committee shall consist of the chapter officers and Faculty Council.

**Section 2-** The Faculty Council shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its business meetings, led by the chapter officers, make recommendations to the chapter, and determine and perform such other duties as are specified in the chapter by-laws.

**Section 3-** The Faculty Council and officers shall have the responsibility of ensuring that the chapter activities and procedures follow school policy and regulations.

**Article Vlll**

**Meetings**

**Section 1**- Chapter meetings will be held once a month.

**Section 2-** Special meetings may be called by the chapter advisors, the president, or chairpersons of chapter committees (the last 2 with approval of chapter advisors).

**Section 3-** Members who miss half of the meetings excused or non-excused will not be allowed to participate in the end of the school year activity.

**Article lX**

**Activities**

**Section 1-** Each chapter shall determine one or more service projects per semester.

**Section 2-** All members shall regularly participate in these projects.

**Section 3-** Members who do not participate in at least half of the projects will not be eligible to participate in the end of the school year activity.

**Section 4-** These projects shall have the following characteristics: fulfill a need within the school or community, have the support of administration and faculty, be appropriate and educationally defensible, and be well planned, organized and executed.

**Section 5-** Each chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.

**Section 6-** Each chapter member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating inindividual volunteer service project that reflects the particular talents and interests of that member.

**Section 7-**Each member is responsible for a minimum of 8 volunteer service hours per semester; an adult, other than a parent must sign notice of the service hours.

**Section 8-** If a member chooses to complete volunteer hours during the summer, four of those hours may be counted towards the first semester’s hours.

**Section 9-**Members who failed to meet the 8 hours of volunteer service the first semester will be put on probation and given reasonable time to complete them.

**Section 10-** Members who fail to meet the 8 hours volunteer service during the second semesterby the date of the activity (which shall be extended time) will not be able to participate in the end of the school year activity.

**Section 11-** Members that do not participate in the chapter service projects or individual volunteer service hours will be subject to dismissal.

**Article X**

**Amendments**

**Section 1**-These by-laws may be amended at any meeting of the Alice Buffett Magnet Middle School National Junior Honor Society by a majority vote of the chapter membership pending prior approval of the chapter advisors and administration.