

NATIONAL JUNIOR  
HONOR SOCIETY (NJHS)

AND

THE WMS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

**2023-2024**

# NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

- The National Junior Honor Society is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding middle school students.
- NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship and character.

# APPLICATION PROCESS

- Applications will be posted on the website for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students following the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> marking quarter. Students who meet academic standards are encouraged to apply.
- **Deadline for the completed application is **Friday, March 1, 2024. NO EXCEPTIONS. We will NOT accept late applications.****
- Pursuant to NJHS bylaws, a panel of WMS faculty members will serve as the WMS NJHS Faculty Council and review all applications.

# NJHS ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Overall average of 91.5 or above for the school year.
- NJHS will review grades as shown below:
  - For 7<sup>th</sup> graders who apply in spring, the final 6<sup>th</sup> grade report card and first two quarters of 7<sup>th</sup> grade
  - For 8<sup>th</sup> graders who apply in spring, the final 6<sup>th</sup> grade report card, the final 7<sup>th</sup> grade report card, and first two quarters of 8<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Grades will **not** be rounded.
  - ALL grades count toward your average, including exploratory courses.

# COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENTS FOR NJHS

- A total of 15 approved hours must be completed, with documentation, by the application deadline.
- Service hours CAN be combined across all grade levels in order to total 15.
- Students must go through existing community service protocols for approval and documentation of hours.
- Parents are encouraged to review their child's documented community service hours via the parent portal – these are updated once per quarter.

# ADDITIONAL NJHS REQUIREMENTS

- Records of behavior
- Attendance
- Leadership
- Citizenship
- Participation in school and community activities

# WHAT NEXT?

- ❖ Applications will be reviewed by a committee of WMS faculty members
- ❖ There will be a NJHS induction ceremony in May 2024.
- ❖ In 8th grade, current members will be required to:
  - attend meetings
  - plan and participate in WMS NJHS programs
  - maintain their status with regard to academics and citizenship
- ❖ NJHS members will be recognized at the WMS Moving Up Ceremony at the conclusion of 8<sup>th</sup> grade

# WOODMERE MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

**In addition to receiving recognition at graduation for NJHS, all students, regardless of academic achievement, are eligible to receive recognition for community service.**



## HOW DOES THE SCHOOL ACKNOWLEDGE THE COMPLETION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS?

- Students completing the expected amount of community service hours will be honored on the WMS “Wall of Service.”
- In addition, 8th grade students who have completed the expected number of hours on each grade level will receive a blue/white cord of honor at the WMS Moving Up Ceremony.

# HOW MANY HOURS AM I EXPECTED TO COMPLETE EACH YEAR?

- Students are expected to complete community service as outlined below:
  - Grade 6 – minimum of 3 hours
  - Grade 7 – minimum of 7 hours
  - Grade 8 – minimum of 10 hour
- **YOU MAY NOT MAKE UP HOURS ANY LONGER**

# WHAT IS AND/OR IS NOT COMMUNITY SERVICE?

- Community service is not something for which you are paid.
- Community service is a volunteer activity, outside of school hours, that benefits the community.
- Even though you may not be paid for working around your home, these tasks are not considered community service.

# HOW CAN I BE SURE SOMETHING WILL COUNT AS COMMUNITY SERVICE?

- All community service activities need **prior approval** from the WMS Community Service representative (Mrs. Mauriello).
- In addition, parent agreement is necessary before undertaking any community service activity.
- It is likely that hours undertaken without prior approval will not count toward WMS Community Service recognition.

# PROCEDURES

1. Pick up or print out the “Community Service Pre-Approval / Notice of Intent” Form (#1). Forms are posted on the school website & Schoology Groups and are available in the office and the office and the library.
2. Fill out Pre-Approval Form #1 in its entirety. Make sure to get a parent signature.
3. Turn in Pre-Approval Form #1 to Mrs. Mauriello (Rm 107) or the office.
4. **Do not begin** your community service until you have received the form back signed as approved/dated by Mrs. Mauriello. Only then will you know that your hours will be approved.

# PROCEDURES (CONT'D)

1. Once your approval form is returned to you signed/dated, then you can begin your community service.
2. Upon completion of your service, obtain the “Project Log and Reflection” Form #2.
3. Fill this out in its entirety with:
  - Supervisor feedback and signature
  - Hours completed
  - Parent Signature
  - Student feedback
4. Turn in to Form #2 to Mrs. Mauriello or the office.
5. Mrs. Mauriello will update your hours on the Portal if the form is filled out properly.

Pre-Approval Form #1

Click [here](#) for link!

Project Log and

Reflection Form #2

Click [here](#) for link!

# WHAT CUTOFF DATES SHOULD STUDENTS BE AWARE OF?

- The cutoff date for the completion of community service is 5/23/24.
- The cutoff date for the submission of the Project Log and Reflection is 5/24/24.
- These cutoff dates are not flexible.



# HOW CAN I FIND OUT ABOUT COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES?

- Opportunities will be announced and posted throughout the year in the Community Service Schoology Group.
- A great place to start is inquiring at local houses of worship or non-profit organizations. Students can also ask the advisor for their grade.
- Before volunteering, we recommend that you consider the following questions.
  - What issues matter most to me?
  - What would I most like to learn by volunteering?
  - Do I have any skills or talents that I would want to use in volunteering?
  - Do I want to do this alone or with my friends or with my family?

## JUST A FEW IDEAS! ALSO, CHECK OUT THE SCHOLOGY GROUP FOR MORE!

- Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library Children's Room
- Other local libraries (Lynbrook, Valley Stream, etc.)
- HES, Ogden, or FECC--Contact the schools/PTA's
- Local synagogues and churches
- Local firehouses
- Food pantries
- Animal Shelters (such as Lend a Paw in Freeport or Last Hope Animal Rescue in Wantagh)
- Arts Below Sunrise
- Rock Hall Museum
- The Inn
- The JCC