

Bylaws of the Winamac Junior Honor Society

Article I: Name

The name of this chapter shall be the Winamac Community Junior Honor Society Middle School.

Article II: Purpose

The purpose of this chapter shall be to create and 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 Winamac Community Middle School.

Article III: Powers

Section 1:

The Principal:

- * The principal has the power to reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.
- * The principal shall annually appoint a member of the faculty as chapter adviser who may serve consecutive terms.
- * The principal shall annually appoint a Faculty Council which may serve consecutive terms.
- * The principal shall receive appeals in cases of non-selection of candidates and the disciplining or dismissal of candidates.

Section 2:

The Chapter Adviser(s):

- * The chapter adviser(s) shall be responsible for the direct, day-to-day supervision and operation of the chapter and act as liaison between faculty, administration, students and community.
- * The chapter adviser(s) shall maintain files on membership, chapter history, activities and financial transactions.
- * The chapter adviser(s) shall regularly review each member for compliance with standards, requirements and obligations of the Society.

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- * The chapter adviser(s) shall be a member of the faculty or staff appointed

annually by the principal and may serve consecutive terms.

Section 3:

The Faculty Council:

- * The Faculty Council shall consist of at least four members of the Winamac Middle School Faculty appointed annually by the principal. The faculty council will remain anonymous to students and parents.
- * The term of the Faculty Council shall be one year. Members may be appointed to serve consecutive terms.
- * The Faculty Council shall meet to select members and consider dismissal, non-selection and warning cases. Upon request from students not selected for this honor, every effort will be made to explain the selection process. *Winamac Middle School is not obligated to share with parents and students information concerning non-selection of specific students.*
- * The Faculty Council will develop and revise, when necessary, all chapter procedures for selection, disciplining and dismissal of members.

Section 4:

Nondiscrimination:

WJHS maintains policies and practices that are designed to prevent discrimination against any qualified candidate or member on the basis of race, color, ancestry, national origin, sex (gender), 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. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue these qualities.

Section 2:

Membership in this chapter shall be known as active, honorary, and alumni. Active members become alumni members at graduation. 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 their 7th grade year

- and/or their 8th grade year at Winamac Community Middle School.
- b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been enrolled for a period equivalent of one semester at Winamac Community Middle School.
 - c. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative GPA of 10.0 out of a 12.0 scale.
 - d. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and GPA standards, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, citizenship and character.

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Article V: Selection of Members

Section 1:

The selection of members to this chapter shall be a majority vote or consensus of the Faculty Council which may consist of at least four faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser(s) shall oversee this process, but will not participate in the vote.

Section 2:

The selection of active members shall be held once a year once a year during the second semester of the school year..

Section 3:

Prior to the final selection, following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic, attendance and discipline records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. All students who are eligible scholastically will be evaluated by their current faculty members at Winamac Community Middle School. They will be evaluated by a list of criteria based on service, leadership, citizenship and character. Faculty will also evaluate candidates on such factors as school attendance and behavior/discipline.
- c. The Faculty Council will meet and evaluate each candidate based on the faculty evaluation, academic information and any 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. Ceremonies will include an evening formal induction ceremony and may include a special ceremony during the school day at the discretion of the principal and chapter adviser(s).

Section 5:

An active member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given an official letter indicating the status of his/her membership.

Article VI: Obligations of Members

Section 1:

The WJHS will not require any annual dues for membership in the chapter. Any special events, program, etc. that may require a fee will be discussed at such appropriate time and will be at the discretion of the principal and faculty adviser(s).

Section 2:

Members will be required to complete a minimum number of hours of service (school or community) to remain eligible for the Society. This number will be determined by the principal and chapter adviser(s).

Section 3:

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 any emblem adopted by the Winamac Junior Honor Society.

Section 4:

Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall have the privilege of wearing any emblem to the chapter revoked. Such members will never again be eligible for membership or its benefits.

Article VII: Officers

Section 1:

Officers are at the discretion of the principal and chapter adviser(s). Any such officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Only those returning members in good standing may be considered for a student officer or able to nominate an eligible member.

Section 2:

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 two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Section 3:

The faculty adviser(s) and any student president shall preside at the meetings of the chapter, and serve as the official representative(s) of the chapter at school and community functions.

Section 4:

The student vice president shall preside in the absence of the student president. They also may be asked to also keep a record of members' contributions to leadership and service.

Section 5:

The student secretary may assist the faculty adviser(s) to keep the minutes and attendance records or meetings, activities, etc.

Section 6:

The student treasurer may assist the faculty adviser(s) in keeping records pertaining to the financial transactions of the chapter.

Section 7:

Officers and the faculty adviser(s) shall collectively be known as the chapter's Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may establish annual goals for the chapter and oversee the meeting and general business of the chapter. Any action of the Executive Committee is subject to the review of its chapter members.

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Article VIII: Meetings

Section 1:

Regular meetings of this chapter will be at least one per month. Other meetings may be held at the discretion of the faculty adviser(s).

Section 2:

Members are expected to attend all meetings. Attendance at chapter meeting is a requirement for member good standing in the organization. Failure to attend meeting may be subject to disciplinary action from the chapter.

Article IX: Activities

Section 1:

This chapter shall determine one or more service activities projects for each year.

Section 2:

All members shall regularly participate in such projects.

Section 3:

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

Section 4:

Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in an individual service project which reflects his or her particular talents and interests and is approved by the chapter adviser(s). This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute.

Section 5:

The chapter shall publicize and promote its projects in a positive manner.

Article X: Discipline/Dismissal of Members**Section 1:**

Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, citizenship, or service may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the WJHS. A member is expected to maintain his/her academic standing and take an active role in service and leadership in his/her school and community. In the case of a flagrant violation of school rules or civil laws, a member does not necessarily have to be warned.

Section 2:

If a member's cumulative GPA falls below the standard (10.0 out of 12.0 scale) in effect when he/she was selected, he/she will be given a written warning and a reasonable time period for improvement. If the cumulative GPA remains below standard at the end of the warning period the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council that may include consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

Chapter Bylaws (p.6)**Section 3:**

Violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of dismissal of a member. These violations include, but are not limited to, stealing, destruction of property, cheating, truancy, or possession, selling or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities or in the community. Any "out of school" suspension or expulsion will result in an immediate dismissal from the Society.

Section 4:

Other issues such as excessive tardies, absences, detentions or other disciplinary referrals may be subject to disciplinary action by the Faculty Council, principal and/or chapter adviser(s).

Section 5:

Offenders of the school conduct code will receive written warning notification. A conference may be requested by either party (Faculty Council or student/parent). If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal.

Section 6:

The Faculty Council and principal shall determine if an individual has exceeded a reasonable number of warnings.

Section 7:

Chapter officers, as representatives of the chapter, can be removed from their positions as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the Faculty Council.

Section 8: In all cases of pending dismissal:

- a. The member will receive written notification from the adviser/Faculty Council indicating the reason(s) for consideration of dismissal.
- b. The Faculty Council will discuss the issue and will take a vote/make a recommendation to the principal. A majority vote of the Faculty Council is needed to dismiss any member.
- c. The results of the Faculty Council vote will be presented to the principal for review, and then stated in a letter sent to the student and parents. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the chapter adviser(s).
- d. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterward according to provisions of the school district discipline policies.
- e. A member who is dismissed or resigns, may never again be considered for membership in the WJHS.

Section 9:

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

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Article XI: Ratification, Approval, and Review

Section 1:

These bylaws will be approved upon receiving a majority affirmative vote of the Faculty Council and any necessary approval by the administration.

Section 2:

These bylaws shall be reviewed (and revised if necessary) every five years.

Article XII: Amendments

Section 1:

Amendments to the bylaws may be made at any time at the discretion of the Faculty Council and principal of Winamac Community Middle School.

Section 2:

A majority vote of the Faculty Council and approval of the principal are necessary to pass an amendment.