



The David A. Stein Riverdale/Kingsbridge Academy MS/HS 141

Principal
Lori O'Mara

Department of
Education
City of New York

Assistant Principals
Sheilagh Lustig
Stacy Miller
Miledys Prado-Romero
Eric Scholz



Chapter Bylaws of the Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society Adopted: 6/20/2025

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this chapter shall be the Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of this chapter shall be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and to encourage the development of character in students of Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy.

ARTICLE III: POWERS

Section 1: This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the National Constitution of NJHS. See www.nhs.us/constitutions. In addition, this chapter will maintain active affiliation with the national organization on an annual basis.

Section 2: This chapter will remain an active member of the National Association by paying annual dues and participating in state functions when possible.

Section 3: The chapter adviser is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

Section 4: Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.

Section 5: Nondiscrimination. Our chapter of NJHS maintains policies and practices that are designed to prevent discrimination against any qualified candidate or member on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation and disability. This policy of



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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, and character.

Section 2. Eligibility:

- a. Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter must be members of the 7th grade class. Students that transfer to RKA as 7th or 8th graders will be considered by the Faculty Council.
- a. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been enrolled for a period equivalent to one semester at Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy.
- b. Candidates eligible for election to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 90%.
- c. Upon meeting the grade level, enrollment, and GPA standards, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and citizenship, & character.

ARTICLE V: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the faculty council which consists of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be the sixth, nonvoting, *ex officio* member of the faculty council.

Section 2. The selection of active members shall be held once a year during the second semester of the school year.

Section 3. Prior to the final selection, the following shall occur:

- a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
- b. All students who are eligible scholastically shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the candidate information form for further consideration.
- c. All candidates will be required to obtain teacher recommendations.
- d. The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates, determined to be scholastically eligible, using the official input form provided by the chapter adviser.
- e. The faculty council shall review the candidate information forms, faculty input, and 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.

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.

Section 6. An active member of the National Junior Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter. The faculty council shall grant to the transferring



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member one semester to attain the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain his/her membership.

ARTICLE VI: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Annual dues for this chapter shall be \$20. A \$10 fee is collected annually to cover the cost of the official NJHS Stole. Chapter members who are 8th graders in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the stole at the Graduation

Section 2. Every chapter member must complete 10 hours of community service outside the school according to the community service guidelines.

Section 3. Every chapter member must complete 1 In-service Project with the NHS Chapter as determined by the chapter members in the beginning of the school year.

Section 4. Every chapter member must attend 6 of the 8 annual after school meetings.

Section 5: Every chapter member must maintain a GPA of 90% or greater.

Section 6: Every chapter member must display the NJHS pillars of good character and citizenship (see Article X).

ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the chapter shall be 4 Officers.

Section 2. Student officers shall be elected in the first marking period of each school year. All returning members in good standing with the chapter are eligible to run for a position as an officer, with chapter advisor approval. Any active member can nominate an eligible member as a candidate for office.

Section 3. 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 the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Section 4. Officers and the faculty adviser(s) shall collectively be known as the chapter's executive committee. The executive committee shall establish annual goals for the chapter and have general charge of the meetings and the business of the chapter, but any action by the executive committee is subject to the review of the chapter members.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings of this chapter shall be once per month after school. A schedule will be provided at the first meeting of the school year. Special meetings can be called by the officers with approval of the adviser.



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Section 2. Members are expected to attend 6 of the 8 chapter meetings to remain a member in good standing. .

ARTICLE IX: ACTIVITIES

Section 1. The chapter shall determine one or more in-service projects for each year.

Section 2. All members must participate in one of these 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. The chapter shall publicize and promote its projects in a positive manner.

ARTICLE X: DISCIPLINE and DISMISSAL of MEMBERS

Section 1. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, service, leadership, or character may be considered for discipline or dismissal from the RKA chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. A member of the National Junior Honor Society is expected to maintain his/her academic standing and take an active role in service and leadership to his/her school and community.

Section 2. If a member's cumulative grade point average falls below the 90% in effect when he/she was selected, he /she will be given a written warning and will be on probation. If the cumulative grade point average remains below standard at the end of the probation period the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the faculty council that includes consideration of dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3. Violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member (see Section 5 below). These violations include, but are not limited to DWI, 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. This includes all level 3, 4, or 5 infractions in the NYCPS Behavioral Expectations.

Section 4. Offenders of the school conduct code (such as use of profanity, failure to comply, unexcused absences, excessive tardiness, etc.) 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 5. 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 6. In all cases of pending dismissal:



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- a. The member will receive written notification from the adviser/faculty council indicating the reason for consideration of dismissal.
- b. The member has the right to respond to the charge(s) against him/her at a hearing before the faculty council prior to any vote on dismissal (in accordance with due process identified in Article X of the National Constitution). The member has the opportunity to present his/her defense either in person or via a written statement presented in lieu of the face-to-face hearing. Following the hearing, the faculty council will then vote on whether to dismiss. 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 adviser.
- d. The faculty council's decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards 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 National Honor Society.

Section 7. In lieu of dismissal, the faculty council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.