

# Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School

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• 45 Westminster Road, Canterbury, CT 06331 • Phone: 860-546-9421 • Fax: 860-546-6289 •

April 20, 2020

Dear Parents or Guardians,

Your child was nominated to apply by both their Core Academic Team of Teachers and their Specials Team of Teachers. On the district website, you will find materials to apply under Baldwin Middle School > Co-curricular Clubs > BMS NJHS Website. Your child will apply using the Google Forms Link. Scroll down for more information and pictures of what we do. Please note, your child must login to their **school-issued Google account** to access and submit the application. It will not work on a non-school account.

**The application materials are available now until the deadline for submission, May 8, 2020.** The application should be completed with the guidance of a parent or guardian (for accuracy), and there is one question for a parent or guardian to complete. Once the applications are received they will be reviewed by a committee of faculty. You and your child will receive an email of acceptance or non-acceptance.

The National Honor Society And National Junior Honor Society were founded in 1921 and since that time have been committed to recognizing and encouraging academic achievement, leadership, citizenship, and service. NJHS is open to seventh and eighth graders only.

There are several requirements for membership which will be documented through the application process. First, all applicants need to have an average grade of 85% or higher over the past year and a half. Your child has met the GPA criteria and would need to maintain, if selected. Second, students need to be involved in school-sponsored extracurricular activities **or** outside-of-school activities. Third, students need to have taken part in some form of verifiable community service. Fourth, students should show leadership experience **and/or** a strong aptitude for leadership within our school community. Finally, the student's character in school and at all school-related activities should be exemplary.

Typically, once membership is established there will be an Induction Ceremony held here at the school for families, friends, staff, and administration. After that, the group will meet periodically to plan events and conduct service-oriented tasks throughout the school. In years past, 8<sup>th</sup> grade National Junior Society members have been recognized at graduation, although with the current situation regarding "Covid-19", many of these ceremonies and celebrations could likely look different.

To maintain membership, members must continue to show scholastic achievement and exemplary citizenship and leadership. Students must also complete an average of two hours of community service each month of the school year. Any disciplinary action such as suspension would result in loss of membership. Other infractions will be reviewed on an individual basis.

**Thank you for your time. We hope you are safe and healthy.** If you have any questions my contact information is below.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Waters, N.J.H.S. Adviser

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