

Spring '23-2024 CJSF Information

Dear 7th or 8th-grade Potential CJSF Member and Parents/Guardians,

You are receiving this letter in order to inform you about our **California Junior Honor Society** organization on campus that is now accepting new applications for the SPRING 2023-2024 year. If you are just being introduced to this organization, the purpose of the California Junior Scholarship Federation (CJSF) is to foster high standards of scholarship and citizenship on the part of students in California's middle and junior high schools. This is a state-wide organization with over 800 chapters and is an extension of the California Scholarship Federation (CSF). The CSF organization began in 1921, led by teachers at Long Beach Poly High School, who believed there should be a state-wide group to honor outstanding high school students. These ideals were extended to middle schools in 1967 when CJSF was founded.

To qualify for membership in the CJSF, students need to demonstrate outstanding character, leadership, and citizenship. Academic requirements are delineated in the application, which will be available on the Jefferson website, beginning at the informational meeting on 2/8/24 for NEW applicants (7th and 8th graders) during lunch and in the JMS office. In addition to these **stringent academic standards**, if students have received an N (Needs Improvement) or U (Unsatisfactory) citizenship grade during any marking period they will be disqualified from candidacy.

In keeping with the long tradition of CJSF, membership in Jefferson's chapter will, in addition to honoring students for their scholastic achievement and model conduct, **require students to give back to the school and community through acts of service.** There are a variety of opportunities to complete service hours each semester. Students will need to complete **15 hrs of community service** hours, which may include peer tutoring and other on-campus opportunities and some off-campus opportunities for the Spring semester. Students must, also, attend all mandatory meetings, which are usually held on the second or third Thursday of the month during lunch. **WE ALSO ASK FOR A \$15.00 DONATION FOR DUES each school year.** This will be used for members' shirts, events, supplies, and accessories provided to group members throughout the year.

Students are encouraged to attend an **informational meeting** to learn about the requirements for prospective candidates **on Thursday, February 8, 2024 at lunch (eat first, meeting at 1:00 in the gym), and applications are due by February 15, 2024 at 3:20 pm with the \$15 cash or check written to Jefferson Middle School to the JMS office.** If you have questions, please email woods.clark@tusd.org or aragon.michele@tusd.org or sweet.wendy@tusd.org. We hope to welcome your student into CJSF!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Aragon, Mr. Woods & Mrs. Sweet
CJSF Advisors, Jefferson Middle School