

The current stipend for 1 sponsor of NJHS is 2% of the base (potentially split between 2 people). I propose increasing this stipend to mirror the HS NHS stipend of 3%, split between 2 people. I give the following reasoning:

Student numbers:

- In 2021-2022, the total number of members was 30 (perhaps a result of Covid). Since then, membership and potential membership has increased.
 - 2022-2023: 48 members
 - 2023-2024: 55 members
 - 2024-2025: 60 members
 - 2025-2026: 50 members
- The number of *potential* members has also increased. Academically qualifying students are sent an invitation to apply for membership, but not all turn in their applications.
 - In 2022-2023, 53 were eligible and 35 returned applications. (66% return rate)
 - In 2023-2024, 58 were eligible and 34 returned applications. (58% return rate)
 - In 2024-2025, 57 were eligible and 40 returned applications (70% return rate)
 - In 2025-2026, 95 were eligible. *Applications have not yet been returned.*
- In an average year, only 3-4 students are denied membership. In 2023-2024, no students were denied. If an average return rate is the mean average of the past 3 years, 64% of eligible students will return an application, or 60 applications. That would create a group with a total of nearly 100 members for 2026-2027. There is a true need for a second sponsor.

Activity:

- Club meetings: meetings take place 1 time per month during the sponsor's plan time. In addition to this, meetings with the officers take place 1 week prior to the club meeting day. Total meetings/hours: 12-14 (depending on weather) and 10-12 hours.
- Fundraiser: the fundraiser helps pay for student service activities and rewards. Approximately 5 hours/per year for communication with students and fundraising company, collecting orders and money, separating and distributing items sold, and wrapping up the fundraiser.
- "Chaperoned" service opportunities: activities such as Trick or Treat for Canned Goods, working in the Memorial Cemetery and assisting with Veteran's day activities requires adult/sponsor supervision. This is approximately 6-8 hours per year.
- Organization sponsored activities such as Game or Movie night (offered to all middle school students) and the NJHS Lock-In (members only) require adult/sponsor supervision. These activities are approximately 12 hours per year.
- Selection and Induction of new members: This requires printing invitations to apply and applications, stuffing envelopes, finding and labeling teachers on those envelopes so students can receive them in a timely manner as well as organizing the faculty committee, setting a meeting time and then, once the selections have been finalized, typing and printing the acceptance or denial letters, stuffing envelopes and again finding

and labeling teachers on the envelopes so that students receive them in a timely manner. This requires approximately 6 hours per year. The Induction ceremony is practiced during the 6th & 7th hours of the day of the ceremony. It takes place in the evening for about an hour. This is approximately 4 hours per year.

Total hours: 43 - 47 per year.

In order to attract and maintain the quality of sponsorship needed for this organization, I recommend increasing the stipend to 3% of the base (split between 2).