

National Junior Honor Society

Effective September 10, 2007, the Brooklyn Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) School has been chartered as a chapter of the National Junior Honor Society—a first ever for the school.

“Being a participant in this prestigious Society would highlight our school as we accentuate academic excellence; teach leadership and service; reinforce discipline and respect,” said Laura Mayne, principal of Brooklyn SDA School. “Several of our students have achieved high academic standards and we needed to recognize them for their effort. We also feel that it would impel and motivate additional students to raise their academic performance. This achievement will send a positive message of academic excellence to our school community.”

Principal Mayne went on to explain that David Cadavero, superintendent of schools for Greater New York Conference, encouraged the school to participate in the program because of the need for academic growth among the education system. The principal and faculty agreed that this would be an excellent accomplishment for its students, and upon further research, a proposal of the honor society was developed and presented to the school board for review. With no objections, the proposal was approved.

Mrs. Sonia Barrett, the 7th and 8th grade teacher at Brooklyn SDA School, was selected to serve as the *Honor Society's* adviser. A five-member Faculty Council has been appointed by the principal to undertake the selection of all new members of the Society, as well as disciplining of student members. The adviser, who sits as a non-voting member of the Faculty Council, will supervise the selection process.

“The students were ecstatic when informed of the program,” said Mayne. “They felt that this achievement would bring a sense of pride for their parents; it would motivate them to do well, build self-esteem as the younger students look up to them as members, and that it would be permanently included on their records enabling them to get good jobs in the future.” An induction ceremony will be planned for early spring once students are selected.

About the National Junior Honor Society

The goals of the Honor Society are:

- To create enthusiasm for scholarship
- To stimulate a desire to render service
- To promote leadership
- To encourage citizenship in students

Students interested in joining the chapter must be a second semester sixth grader or must already be enrolled in grades 7 and 8. They must be in attendance for one semester at the Brooklyn SDA School, and must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.2 (out of a 4.0 grade point average). Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and G.P.A. standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered to the Honor Society based on their record of service, leadership, citizenship, and character. The Faculty Council will meet and vote on the names and parents will be notified. Once students are selected, regular meetings will be held and they will be trained on how to conduct meetings. Chapter By-Laws will be developed to amplify sections of the National Constitution and clarify operating

procedures of the chapter. Projects will be developed in the school community to stimulate in students a desire to render service. A complete annual report of activities will be submitted to the National Office Headquarters.