



# Inducting Members

Based on a candlelighting service



## Consider the date

- Look at the school calendar. Avoid any conflicts with other activities. Plays? Athletic events? Holidays?
- Will your ceremony be held during the school day or outside of school hours?

## Invite your candidates and their families



- See a **sample invitation** in the Adviser Resource Center.



## Plan your ceremony

### OPTIONS TO CONSIDER



Appoint a planning committee



Invite special guest speakers

Superintendent? Local school board member? A local Honor Society alum?



Have a theme

Examples: Past, Present, and Future; the History of Education or the History of Leadership; Community or school-specific theme; the long-standing tradition of your chapter.



Print a program



Have music or a performance by your school's performing arts students

Check out "Melodies of Achievement," a CD from the NHS or NJHS Store.



Give a token of membership

Consider an Honor Society membership card, pin, or emblem. Shop the NHS or NJHS Store for all the options.



Use a registry to record your new members

The signing of the registry is usually part of the induction ceremony.



Have a postceremony reception

Students and their families love to celebrate. A local grocer or restaurant might even donate!

### SOME "MUSTS"



Pick a location

Consider size, seating, schedules based on facility availability. Is the room you want available when you need it?



Secure the location using your school's protocol

Coordinate with your custodian/facility manager on logistics: seating, AV equipment, staging, etc. Decorations? Flowers?



Prepare a script

See a sample, based on the pillars of NHS or NJHS or find one in the Adviser Resource Center.



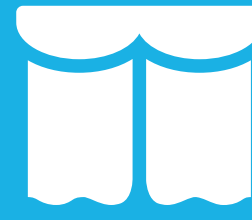
Rehearse

Select an emcee —Maybe the chapter president? Can he or she think quickly, be respectful, handle mistakes?



Check your school's policies & buy your candles

Find out if you CAN use real candles. The NHS or NJHS Store offers wax and flameless candles. Practice using the candles with your officers. Make sure you're complying with local fire codes.



Stage the ceremony



## Follow up

- Review the ceremony with your officers and members.
- Thank special guests in writing.

Do NOT call this an "initiation" ceremony. Initiation, blackballing, and hazing are expressly prohibited as part of the selection and induction process.

An entire chapter devoted to the induction of members is available in your **NHS or NJHS Handbook**.



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