

JUNIOR ACADEMY PROTOCOL AND QUALIFICATIONS

Junior Academies have the reputation as being "volatile" schools in that they can be here one year, gone the next, and back again the third. As a result of this trend and other ongoing challenges along with those that spontaneously arise for junior academies, a protocol is needed along with qualifications for a school to pursue and maintain junior academy status. The purpose of this document is to address those needs.

PROTOCOL

A school desiring to have junior academy status must fulfill the following prerequisites:

1. March 1 - K-8 schools wanting to pursue junior academy status must have the conference physically visit the school and sign off that the check list of qualifications below has been met.
2. March 15 - The school must have their junior academy application **FULLY COMPLETED** and submitted to the conference.
3. May 1 - Conference **MUST** submit **ALL** junior academy applications to the Southern Union Secondary Education Department by this date.
4. July 1 - Schools not approved in May must submit reapplications to the Conference Office
5. July 8 - Conferences must have **ALL** reapplications to the Union Office

QUALIFICATIONS

1. All teachers must be certified either by regular certification, conditional certification for core subjects (Math, Science, History, English) or a designated certificate for non-core subjects.
2. Facilities must be adequate to meet the needs of the additional grade(s) ie. grades 7-9 must be in a separate classroom, correct square footage per student etc.
3. Textbooks must meet the NAD current textbook list requirement.
4. The principal must attend a yearly training/in-service in order for their school to maintain junior academy status. Training/in-service to be offered in February and August of each year. The training in August is only for new principals that were hired after the training in February.
5. The school must have the appropriate school information management system and a qualified/trained individual responsible for entering needed data.
6. A projected, continuing enrollment/staffing that is adequate for the operation of a K-9/10 program.
7. Adequate library/multi-media, and technology educational resources must be evident at an on-site visit and before approval.