

DISTRIBUTE TO: Region-Territory Future Division & Parents Group Leaders, Region-Territory Leaders, Zone and Territory Offices
FROM: National Future Division and Parents Group Leaders
SUBJECT: 2021 SGI-USA Junior High & High School Core Guidelines

PURPOSE OF THE JHHS CORE:

In his lecture series to the Future Division, Ikeda Sensei recalled how his mentor, Josei Toda, often referred to children as “emissaries from the infinite past, born to enable their parents and others around them to attain Buddhahood. He also called them the treasures of the future, saying that we should think of them as emissaries from the future and take the best care of them” (March 2021 *Living Buddhism*, p. 55).

Amid these challenging times and with our gaze firmly set on 2030, the 100th anniversary of the Soka Gakkai’s founding, the SGI-USA is firmly committed to uniting as a four-divisional family to



foster capable successors who can assure the future of our kosen-rufu movement in America. As part of this effort, the SGI-USA will initiate a training group for the Junior High and High School members, identifying and raising a JHHS Core, who are deeply committed to kosen-rufu and who can take the lead in 2030 and beyond.

Below are Guidelines to establish Zone level Junior High and High School Core. While these guidelines are extensive, they were created with great attention to the mission and needs of this particular division. Together, let’s pour our whole heart into raising Sensei’s precious successors!

GUIDELINES TO ESTABLISH ZONE LEVEL JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL CORE

CORE CRITERIA:

- Must be an SGI-USA JHHS member
- Consistent attendance at Soka Family Day meetings
- Participation in the district monthly Discussion meetings or make a determination to participate
- Determined to challenge academics in school
- Complete an Interview Visit Process

CORE KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Participate in monthly Core Study meetings
- Communicate with JHHS (up to 5 members)
- Assist with planning, promoting and facilitating JHHS meetings

CORE 6-MONTH ACTIVITY RHYTHM AND CURRICULUM:

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|----------------|--|
| Month 1 | Getting To Know You/Setting Expectations and Determinations |
| Month 2 | TBD from March 2021 <i>Living Buddhism</i> |
| Month 3 | TBD from April 2021 <i>Living Buddhism</i> |
| Month 4 | TBD from May 2021 <i>Living Buddhism</i> |
| Month 5 | TBD from <i>The New Human Revolution</i> or Other Guidance from Ikeda Sensei |
| Month 6 | TBD from <i>The New Human Revolution</i> or Other Guidance from Ikeda Sensei |

CORE MEETINGS AGENDA (50 MINUTES) FOR MONTHS 2-6:

These meetings will be led by Zone Future Division Leaders and supported by Zone-National Youth or Men's and Women's Leaders

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| 5-7min | Check-in/Ice Breaker related to school |
| 10min | Study Presentation by JHHS Core |
| 20min | Discussion |
| 15min | Question & Answer / Encouragement by the Central Figure |
| 20min | (Optional) Soka Family Day Planning |



CORE TRAINING AND PREPARATION FOR MEETINGS:

- Emcee
- Fukudoshi (when in person meetings resume)
- Core Meetings (2 weeks before or after Soka Family Day)

CORE INTERVIEW VISIT PROCESS:

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|--------|---|
| Step 1 | Zone Future Division Leaders propose a list of up to 12 JHHS members to the Zone Line Leaders |
| Step 2 | Region through Territory line and Zone through National Future Division youth leaders reach out to parents for approval |
| Step 3 | Visit to the JHHS Core member to interview and complete the approval process |
| Step 4 | Report back to the Zone line leaders upon confirmation of each JHHS core member |

INTERVIEW VISIT:

Please share the spirit of the core and importance of the commitment that exists to help each member receive the full benefit of this training. Some questions to guide the dialogue are:

- Ikeda Sensei emphasizes the importance of study especially in the Future Division - how are you doing with your studies and what kind of challenges are you experiencing at this time?
- Is there a particular encouragement from Ikeda Sensei that has inspired you? What does having a connection to Ikeda Sensei mean to you?
- Do you like chanting? Have you had an experience by chanting and breaking through an obstacle?
- Do you have any hobbies and current goals - what are some of your dreams for the future?

LAUNCH ZONE JHHS CORE: For organizations that are ready, cores should be launched in May.