

Boyertown Area Middle School West
Competition, Community Service, and Application Clubs
2024-2025 School Year

- These clubs are for the full year and are two days per cycle unless otherwise indicated.
 - Clubs that are four days per cycle can be for two days if a student is in band or orchestra.
 - Clubs are for students in grades 6-8 unless otherwise indicated.
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6th Grade Vocal Ensemble (By Audition Only) – All Year – Days 2 & 5 – Mrs. Rutt

- This select group of 6th graders will collaborate to learn fun and challenging music. Students will be selected for this ensemble based on an audition, and the songs learned in Vocal Ensemble will be performed by the group at the winter and spring concerts! **Grade 6 Only.**

Communications Club/MSW News Crew – All Year – Days 2 & 4 – Mrs. McDonough

- Do you like being in the limelight, meeting new people, and representing your school in a positive way? This club might be for you! Team members will learn what it takes to be part of an on-air news team while learning basic interviewing, writing, and reporting skills. **Please note:** Applicants will additionally be required to go through an interview process. This will include writing and reporting a self-selected segment.

Math Counts – Trimesters 1 & 2 -- Days 1 & 3 – Mrs. Jakoby – Days 4 & 6 – Mrs. Parish

- Math Counts will be a challenging and fun club for advanced math students. We will complete a gold level project and prepare for a county competition at PSU-Berks. Some of what we will do includes on-line math games, working alone and with teams on challenge problems, competing with classmates in math games and go against classmates in a countdown round.

Select Crafts – Trimesters 1 & 2 – Days 4 & 6, Trimester 3 – Days 1 & 3 – Mrs. Harner

- Students will have the opportunity to use their creativity and problem-solving skills for making art. Most (but not all) art created will be in three-dimensional form, such as: weaving, coiling, mosaics, batiks and more. Some artistic ability is required but creativity is key. Application required. **Grades 7 and 8 only.**

Student Council – All Year – Days 1, 3, 4 – Mr. Hazel & Mrs. Shelly

- Student Council members represent the student body by helping to share students' ideas and interests. They also plan various activities and events for the school. Events include: dances, socials, sporting events, food drives & more! Student Council is looking for individuals who want to enhance their leadership qualities and play an active role in their school. **Grades 7 and 8 only.**

Tech Op: Stage Crew – All Year – Days 1 & 3, or 4 & 6 – Mr. Stallman

- As a crew member, you will be operating behind the scenes to help make school events go off without a hitch. Examples of events may include but are not limited to: MSW music concerts, some elementary school concerts, morning announcements, MSW musical, MSW one act plays. Members will be needed before school and after school for practices and shows. Dates and drop off and pick up times for events will be provided in advance. Members must be disciplined and demonstrate the ability to keep up with schoolwork. After sign-ups are collected you will be contacted for an interview. **Grades 7 and 8 only.**

Technology Student Association (TSA) – Days 1 & 3, or 4 & 6 – Mr. Reigner & Mr. Stallman

- The Technology Student Association (TSA) is an international student organization devoted exclusively to the needs of students interested in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Students are required to pay a membership fee to cover the costs of membership at the state and national level and to cover their costs of participating and lunch at the Regional Conference held at the beginning of February. Students prepare for such events as VEX Robotics, PA Robotics, Co2 Dragsters, Website Design, Video Game Design, Off the Grid House Design, Computer Aided Design, Medical Technology Issues, Prepared Speech, Dragster, and Invention and Innovations. You can look at the national website (www.tsaweb.org) and state website (www.patsa.org) for more information on the 56 events available. TSA is an academic competition club that competes at the regional and state level. After-school participation is a must. Work sessions will be also be held after school 1 to 2 days a week from October to February from 2:55PM-5:00PM in rooms 63 & 64. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Stallman or Mr. Reigner.

West Music Crew – All Year – Days 1 & 3 – Mr. Bekesy

- Bring in your instrument of choice, let's play some music together! We practice, learn from each other, and maybe write songs together. The last few years we have been able to form a rock band to perform in front of the whole school! You do not have to be good at your instrument to join, just bring it in and slowly get better! Performing on stage is not mandatory.

West Video Production Club – Trimesters 1 & 2 – Days 2 & 5 – Mr. Rothermel & Mr. Magro

- Be part of a competitive team that plans, designs, and produces a promotional video for a Berks County business. Compete against other Berks County teams and learn how to shoot, edit, and produce high quality videos. Great for students interested in advertising and video editing. **All students will need to go through an additional application process before a final team is selected. Grade 8 Only.**

What's Up West?/School Reporting Club – All Year – Day 6 – Mr. Kalejta

- Use your Instagram talents to show the community how awesome our school is! In this club, students will have the chance to travel the halls of the school to take pictures to post on our school's Instagram account, @whatsup_west. Students may also create a few news stories or creative pieces which we can share, as well. Help us display the great features of West through social media.

Youth and Government (YAG) – All Year – Days 1 & 4 – Mr. Rothermel

- Do you like to debate current issues in the world? This may be the club for you! Youth and Government (YAG) is a social studies enrichment club partnered with the YMCA. Students learn and participate in the complexities of state government, including but not limited to:
 - Researching, developing, and writing a bill
 - Formal debate using Parliamentary Procedure
 - Public speaking
 - Collaborating with Lobbyist Organizations
 - Arguing a legal case

NOTE: Students attend several field trips on weekends per year, including a 4 day & 3-night trip to Harrisburg for Model Convention in April where students debate with others across the state in the Pennsylvania State Capitol. * There are program and trip fees involved in this club.

Grades 7 and 8 only.

Yearbook – All Year – Days 1 & 3 – TBD

- Yearbook is a small club that works on the layout and production of the West yearbook, *Ursa Minor*. Students applying for this club should be self-motivated, hard-working, detail-oriented, and deadline-oriented. Yearbook staff members will be taking and uploading pictures and designing and editing assigned pages (including checking names and spelling). Students must be able to stay after school from time to time to take pictures at sporting events and practices. Mandatory after-schoolwork sessions will also be held from time to time to ensure that we meet our deadlines (34 pages are due in January; 34 pages are due in March; 4 pages are due in April). Students in yearbook cannot be shared with another club on days 1 & 3.

Boyertown Area Middle School West
Special Interest Clubs
2024-2025 School Year

- These clubs are trimester in length (1/3 of the school year) unless otherwise indicated.
 - These clubs do not require an application.
 - Clubs are for students in grades 6-8 unless otherwise indicated.
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Board Games – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 1 – Mrs. Reinhart

- Students will learn the rules of various board and card games such as Sorry, Battleship, Uno, Life, Yahtzee, etc. and then have time to interact while playing the games in groups to encourage strategy, good sportsmanship, friendly competition, camaraderie and making new friends.

Chess & Checkers Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 6 – Mr. Bliss

- This club is for students who enjoy the strategy involved in checkers and chess.

Coding & Makerspace Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 6 – Mr. Hazel

- Want to learn how to code? How about virtual and augmented reality? What about ways to use Google more efficiently? Join us as we explore all of these things in this fun and exciting club! Discovery based sessions will allow you to explore different areas of technology that interest you and share your information with others who love technology. Create coding challenges to share with your friends, work with others to learn a new skill, and create content that is meaningful to you! If you loved your Makerspace in Elementary School, you are going to love this club!

Coloring Club – Trimesters 1 & 3 – Day 5 – Mrs. Mauser

- Students will relax, reflect, and refocus while coloring intricate pages. Students will be able to color silently or with light chit-chat while soft music plays in the background. A variety of page choices will allow students to express themselves with minimal skill needed.

Community Artists Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Days 1 & 3 or 4 & 6 – Mrs. Stamm

- Are you able to stay focused and do 4 or 5 of the same things? Are you willing to donate some of the items you make to help others? Do you want to learn to sew and do other crafts? Then Community Artists Club is for YOU! Come and learn how to make 3 hand sewn Huggy Bears and 4 eyeglasses cases for children in the hospital and people in nursing homes and Meals on Wheels. You must bring in at least 4 old t-shirts so we can make dog toys for a local rescue. Making multiple items of the same type is required, as well as some artistic skill.

Courtyard Clean-up Club – Trimester 1 – Day 1 – Mrs. Roth & Mrs. Palopoli

- Every fall, there's a lot of cleanup needed in our courtyards, especially raking leaves, weeding, & trimming. If you like gardening and working outside, join us in Courtyard Clean-up Club this fall.

Creative Writing & Reading Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 -- Days 1 & 4 – Mr. McAuliffe

- Write and read independently, with another student, or with a teacher to take your writing and reading to the next level. Students are given time to write creatively, get feedback on their work, and collaborate with other writers. Students can also read that book they have been hoping to get to or reading texts for writing ideas can do that too! Students of all skill levels and interests are welcome, as long as you are willing to write, read and hear some great storytelling!

Cross Country Club – Trimester 1 – Days 4 & 6 – Mrs. Achenbach

- Engage your love for running with our exploratory Cross-Country Club. Students will enhance their running stamina during period 10.

Cross-Stitch Club – Trimester 2 – Day 2 – Mrs. Grabner

- Interested in learning a new craft? Cross-stitch club will teach you the art of cross-stitch by following a pattern and sewing little x's into fabric. To be successful, all you need to do is count and follow some basic steps. We will start with the basics of cross-stitching and work on creating some practice patterns to learn the skills. You will also work to create your own basic design and stitch it during the trimester!

Drama Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Days 1 & 3 – Mrs. Painter

- Do you have an interest in theater? Are you looking for a place to be creative and expressive? Do you want to learn what goes into putting on a full-length production here at Middle School West? If so, drama club might be the right fit for you! In this club, you will learn the basics of theater and acting including: community building, relaxation and breathing techniques, pantomime, movement, character development, script reading, memorization, staging, directing, and improvisation. Even if you are not sure if you want to be in the spotlight, this is a great opportunity to see what it takes to work both on and off the stage.

Elementary Friends – Trimester 2 – Days 4 & 6 – Mrs. Achenbach

- If you love working with children, babysitting, and/or want to learn more about these activities, this is the club for you! We will share tips, ideas, and strategies, as well as learn the fundamentals of how to become a good caretaker of younger children. We will also try out what we learn when we visit the classes at BES.

Friendship Bracelet Making Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 2 – Mrs. Harner

- Come de-stress and learn how to use knotting (macrame) and weaving techniques to make a variety of friendship bracelets. You can learn different patterns, such as chevron, flipflop, Chinese staircase, candy cane square know, and many more.

Garden Club – Trimester 3 – Day 2 – Mrs. Creed

- In this club, students will learn about gardening and gain hands-on experience with starting plants and flowers from seed and transplanting them to the school courtyards when the weather gets warm. Students will gain environmental awareness and learn about how a pollinator garden supports plants that supply nectar and pollen to a wide range of pollinators, including insects such as bees and butterflies and certain birds and animals.

Lego Club – Trimester 3 – Days 4 & 6 – Mrs. Achenbach

- Students will build on creativity problem-solving, critical thinking skills and cooperation by using Legos to build solutions to various engineering design challenges. This club encourages innovative thinking and collaboration in a safe, enriching environment to create and play. Join the Lego club to meet new friends and to have fun building together.

No Place for Hate Club – Trimester 1– Day 1 – School Counselors

- Help plan a minimum of 3 school wide NPFH activities as well as create posters and plan other events throughout the year that promote respect and acceptance and help our West community learn more about one another.

Origami Club – Trimester 3 – Day 4 or 6 – Mrs. Parish

- Origami is the ancient Japanese art of paper folding. Club members will follow written directions to fold paper into a variety of beautiful shapes including swans, flowers, and stars. No experience is necessary! All you need to join this club is a natural curiosity and a willingness to challenge yourself. Come create with us while we get to know new people and relax with music in the background.

Piano Club – Trimesters 2 & 3 - Days 1 & 3 – Mrs. Creed

- This is a course designed for students who wish to learn how to play the piano and have little to no experience already. Students will use keyboard pianos in the music room for one-on-one lessons in a small group setting. Students with some piano knowledge or skills are still welcome to join and will be given time to work independently on more advanced music. Class size is limited to the number of available pianos.

Reading Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 2 – Mrs. Palopoli

- Do you want a quiet time to check out books and read? Join the Reading Club. Grab a book and let your imagination grow.

Recycling Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 4 – Mrs. Palopoli

- Recycling paper benefits us in many ways: saves energy, resources, & water; less trees cut down; improved air & water quality; & less waste in landfills. Our recycling club will encourage teachers and students to separate all recyclable paper and cardboard and utilize the recycling bins. Once a cycle, we will go to each classroom, collect the paper recycling, and place it in the recycling bins in the parking lot. (Maximum 20 students)

SADD – All Year – Days 1 & 3 – Mrs. McDonough

- SADD empowers and encourages students to engage in positive change through leadership and smart decision-making. SADD fosters a sense of belonging among students from a wide range of experiences who are committed to improving the health and safety of all students. Students will collaborate to create a healthier and safer world, one positive decision at a time. Topics might include mobility safety, substance abuse and prevention, personal health and safety, and leadership development.

Spirit Club/Kindness Crew Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Days 1 & 2 – Dr. Schrode-Fries

- MSW's Spirit Club/Kindness Crew is all about spreading kindness and positivity throughout the school. Be prepared to create a positive and supportive community among our club and all of MSW. Members will work together to figure out how to do this effectively by whatever means they choose. The Kindness Crew will organize and promote spirit days, decorate the school, and cultivate positive energy throughout West.

Science Club – Trimester 1 – Days 4 & 6 – Mr. Bekesy

- Science club offers students hands-on experience with science. Small groups will collaborate using small electric motors and battery packs to design their own battery powered car.

Walking Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 2 – Mrs. Shelly & Mrs. Witman

- Looking to get more exercise & get some fresh air? Join our MSW walking club! This club is a low key, fun, social, walking club aimed at getting students outside, enjoying fresh air and adding in some exercise! Each session, we will plan to go outside and walk around our school, track or Boyertown Park

Watercolor Painting Club – Trimester 1 –Day 1 – Mrs. Grabner

- Come join us for a relaxing period 10 in watercolors club. We will enjoy a relaxing period of painting printed out picture outlines (multiple choices offered each session) with basic watercolor paints. Students will learn responsibility for materials as well as maintenance of all materials for the club. We will listen to quiet, calm music while water coloring, and soft talking will be welcomed. No experience is necessary – come embrace your inner child and painting skills with us!

Weightlifting & Fitness Club – Trimesters 2 & 3 –Day 2 – Mr. Bekesy & Mr. Wawrzonek

- Join us in the weightroom to build strength and fitness! We will set up several different circuit style workouts and we will rotate through the routine. You don't need any prior workout experience. Anyone is welcome! (Limit 20)

Woodworking Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3, -- Days 2 & 5 – Mr. Reigner

- This club meets 2 times a cycle. Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 can join. Students will learn how to safely operate woodworking tools and equipment. Small projects will be made. This class will require students to pass a safety test on each machine we will use this school year. Sample projects of years past are in the Tech Ed showcase. If you have a question, see Mr. Reigner or Mr. Stallman. (Limit 16)

Word Search & Crossword Puzzle Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 2 – Mrs. Stamm

- Bring your writing items and do word searches and crossword puzzles ON PAPER for fun and vocabulary building skills. Numerous choices will be offered. Do you have an inquisitive mind and like crossword puzzles and word searches? Do you have good focus? If so, this club is for you! (Limit 20)

Zesty Westy Chefs – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Days 3 & 5 – Mrs. Grabner & Mrs. Jones

- The Zesty Westy Chefs will spend time learning about properly measuring ingredients, reading recipes, and food/kitchen safety all culminating in some real food preparation. Students will be responsible for actively participating, which includes preparing recipes, washing/drying dishes, cleaning, and delivering food samples to staff members. Some previously favorited items the club has cooked were wontons, chocolate covered pretzels, pretzel bites, and big mac bites. WARNING: Students with any sort of food allergies such as peanuts, tree nuts, milk, eggs, etc. would NOT benefit from this club. (Limit 15)