

Boyertown Area Middle School West
Competition, Community Service, and Application Clubs
2023-2024 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) – 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.**

Bear Buddies – Day 1 – Mrs. Baylor

- Every bear needs a buddy! Room 15 is looking for helpful, kind, and friendly students who want to make a difference within the West walls. Bear Buddies is a club where students with different abilities are paired to create and develop friendships and positive experiences that will last a lifetime. Throughout the semester, you will work with your assigned buddy to strengthen a variety of skills that expand and develop the mind, body, and soul. (examples include: crafts, games, conversation practice, real-world experiences, outings and much more!)

Communications Club/MSW News Crew – Day 4 – Mrs. McDonough & Mr. Stallman

- Do you like being in the limelight and meeting new people? Would you like to improve your overall communications skills and knowledge of the communities around you? Whatever the case, this club will allow students with an interest in journalism, film, sports reporting, etc. to gain an insight into what the communications hype is all about. Club members will learn what it takes to be part of an on-air news team while learning basic interviewing and reporting skills. This club may likely require occasional “after school hours,” so only serious applicants need apply.

Math Counts – 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 – Days 1 & 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 – Two Days Per Cycle – 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 us play some music together! Music club will bring students together who like music, but are not necessarily in chorus, band, or orchestra. We practice, learn from each other, and maybe write songs together. You do not have to be good at your instrument to join, just bring it in and slowly get better!

West Video Production Club – Trimesters 1 & 2 – Days 1 & 4 – 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 – 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) – Days 1 & 3, 4 & 6 – 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 a 4 day & 3-night trip to Harrisburg for Model Convention where students debate with others across the state in the Pennsylvania State Capitol. *Due to the trip, there is a financial obligation for this club. **Grades 7 and 8 only.**

Yearbook – Days 1 & 3 – Mrs. Palopoli

- 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
2023-2024 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. Koch

- 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.

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

- Work together with fellow writers to analyze and read great writing, learn strategies and techniques to craft interesting characters and plots, and take your writing to the next level. Students will also be given time to write creatively, get feedback on their work, and collaborate with other writers. We will also look for and enter writing contests during the year. Students that feel like 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 and read!

Drama Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Days 1 & 3 or 4 & 6 – 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.

Friendship Bracelet Making Club – Trimesters 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 knot, and many more.

Garden Club – Trimester 3 – Day 1 – Ms. Dentith

- In this club, we will begin plotting a garden as well as talking about companion gardening, container gardening, and greenhouse gardening. Students will start to plant seeds and plan how the seeds will be used. Students will create a plot garden and troubleshoot possible problems that can occur based on what type of garden they are planting.

No Place for Hate Club – Trimesters 1 & 2 – 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.

Maritime Club – All Year – Days 1 & 3 – BASH JROTC Staff

- Those that have an interest in all things having to do with the ocean: beaches, fishing, boating, sailing, shells, shellfish, surfing, snorkeling, skin diving, and marine life. Use of research on web and hands on activities to peak interest and explore topics of interest.

Origami Club – Trimester 1, 2, 3 – Day 4 – Mrs. Koch

- 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.

Reading Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 2 – Ms. Kujat

- Do you like to explore faraway places? Do you like to learn about different areas of the world or just around the corner? Do you like to use your imagination? Do you want to relieve stress? Reading a book can take you around the world and back again without leaving your seat. Join the Reading Club. Grab a book and let your imagination grow.

School Spirit Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Days 1 & 2 – Dr. Schrode-Fries

- Are you proud of your school? Do you want to encourage other students to love being at West? Join the School Spirit Club! School Spirit Club brings all students together by organizing and promoting spirit days, decorating the school, and cultivating positive energy throughout West.

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

- The Science club provides opportunities for students to learn more about science than they learn in the classroom. The Science club offers students hands-on experience with science. Students can explore their own interests and expand their knowledge with group or solo activities. Group activities help students learn to work together to come up with ideas to solve problems.

Sign Language Club – Trimesters 1 & 2 – Day 1 – Ms. Dentith

- Students gather to learn the basics of sign language: their alphabet, introductory phrases, and short conversational practice. In the club, we will watch videos, make posters, and have a tete a tete.

Sports and Entertainment Marketing – Trimester 3 – Day 2 – Mr. Baessler

- Students will learn about the economic impact that sports and entertainment has on a particular area. We will discuss all aspects of marketing and how to market a team, individual, and the retail side of this industry.

Sports News Club – Trimesters 1 & 2 – Day 2 – Mr. Baessler

- Students will research and discuss current events and topics in the world of sports. All sports will be included from scholastic, collegiate, and professional. The primary focus will be on professional sports that are currently in season.

Teen WellZone – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 1 – Mrs. McDonough

- Designed to incorporate healthy living and active learning, this club emphasizes good nutrition, regular physical activity and improving overall well-being through stress management, time management, movement (including yoga), and exploration of topics that impact a teen's overall wellness.

Video Game Appreciation Club Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Days 3 & 6 – Mr. Magro

- To be clear, THIS IS NOT A CLUB TO SIT ON YOUR LAPTOP AND PLAY GAMES. The VGA Club aims to celebrate and learn about video games! We'll watch and analyze some of the most famous games in history, discuss different mechanics employed in games and why they make them fun, as well as discuss current events in the gaming space and where games are heading in the future. And yes, we will also play some games TOGETHER.

Watercolor Painting Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Cycle 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!

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 & 3 – Day 2 – Mrs. Stamm

- Bring your writing items and do word searches and crossword puzzles 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 also learn about healthy eating habits and other information on nutrition. Students will have the opportunity to research some recipes. The final weeks of the trimester will be some hands-on time when students can actually prepare recipes and, of course, sample them! Warning: Students with allergies to peanuts, tree nuts, and other generally used items in food preparation of common recipes would NOT benefit from this.