



Middle School West Competition & Community Service Clubs 2022-2023

- These clubs are all 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 grades 6-8 unless otherwise indicated.
- These clubs are all by application (except 6th vocal ensemble, which is by audition).

6th Grade Vocal Ensemble – By Audition – 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 – Days 1 & 3 – 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 (if and when possible), 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 applicant need apply.

Math Counts – Days 1 & 3 (Mrs. Jakoby) or 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, compete 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. Bauman

- 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 Drive & 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 afterschool 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 interview. **Grades 7 and 8 only**

Technology Student Association (TSA) – Days 1 & 3, 2 & 5, 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) as well as business education. 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 the beginning of February. Students prepare for such events as VEX Robotics, PA Robotics, Website Design, Video Game 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. Afterschool 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.

What's So Cool About Manufacturing? 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.



Middle School West Special Interest Clubs 2022-2023

- These clubs are a trimester in length (1/3 of a school year) unless otherwise indicated.
- These clubs do not require an application.
- All grades are included unless noted.

Babysitting Club – Trimesters 1 & 2 – Days 1 & 3, Trimester 3 – Days 4 & 6 – Mrs. Piccione

- 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 first-grade class at BES. Come join the fun in Babysitting Club!

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 & 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 – Days 1 & 3, Trimester 3 – Days 4 & 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 make 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 Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 -- Days 3 & 6 – Mr. Magro

- Work together with fellow writers to analyze 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. Students of all skill levels and interests are welcome, as long as you are willing to write!

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.

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 – Trimesters 1 & 2 – Days 4 & 6, Trimester 3 – Days 1 & 3 – 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.

Podcasting Club – Trimesters 1 & 2 – Days 1 & 3, Trimester 3 – Days 4 & 6 – Mrs. Weber

- Whether you listen to podcasts in your spare time or have never heard of one, this club will teach you about what podcasts are, and show you how to create one. You will create your own podcasting station with loaded episodes on content topics of your choice. There will be research and writing involved in creating a podcast (your choice of topics), so if that is something you are not interested in, this club may not be for you. Publicity permissions preferred for this club but not required. Students without publicity permission will not be allowed to make their podcasts live for the public to listen to but will still have a platform to record their podcasts.

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 – Trimesters 1 & 2 – 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.

Students Against Destruction Decisions (SADD) – All Year – Day 1 – Mrs. Livelsberger

- Students will bring awareness to a variety of issues such as drug abuse, suicide, relationships, and resolving problems. Activities including Drug Free Awareness week, Helping at Wellness Fair, and Volunteering during the Boyertown Elementary Fun Day.

Teenage Survival 101 – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 1 – Mrs. McDonough

- Quiz time. Ready? Check the boxes for the things you would be able to do if asked:
 - Set a table for a dinner party.
 - Write a check for groceries.
 - Address an envelope to a friend or loved one.
 - Spot “fake news” on TV or social media.
 - Sew a button back on your favorite shirt.
 - Use a road map to get to the beach.
 - Contact a company to make a comment or formal complaint.
- If you could not check MOST of these boxes, this club is for you! Join a group of your fellow Westies in learning some essential life skills that often go unattended. Let’s be honest, the world is a jungle out there. Will you survive?

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!

West Music Crew – Trimester 3 – 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!