



2019-20 Guide to BCMS Student Clubs & Activities

ATHLETIC CLUBS

Visit our [Athletics page](#) to find out more about non-club athletic teams at BCSD.

S.W.A.T.

S.W.A.T. is an acronym for Student Wellness and Training. Students come on a self-determined schedule on Tuesday and Thursday from October through June. The program begins at 6:45 a.m., with 25 minutes in the weight room for a muscular workout. Then students complete a cardio workout in the gym, usually through a game. Following the exercise, students enjoy a healthy breakfast in the cafeteria. S.W.A.T. is open to all BCMS students. Come and get your day started in an upbeat way!

Advisors: Ms. Banas, Ms. McGaughan, Mr. Nealon and Mr. Woods.

Intramurals

Intramurals offer students a variety of games that promote cardiovascular exercise. Participants meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:30 – 8 a.m., and Wednesdays from 2:46 to 3:35 p.m. Morning activities include Dance, Dance Revolution, fitness and basketball pick-up games. Afternoon activities are organized tournaments three times a year: Fall Flag Football,

Winter Basketball and Spring Pickleball/Ulimate Frisbee.

Advisors: Physical Education Teachers

THEATRE CLUBS

Staged Creations

Staged Creations is open to all BCMS students. No Prior theater or acting experience is required. Students are cast in the production based on auditions, which are held in mid-December at a mandatory introductory meeting. Each year there is a maximum number of students selected for performance parts in the show, and not every role is a speaking part. Meetings and rehearsals are held Tuesdays through Fridays (and some Mondays) after school from 2:45 – 3:46 p.m. During the month of March or April, additional after-noon rehearsals may be held on Saturdays and on some evenings. Students must attend all rehearsal dates in order to participate in the production. If a student is already involved in an activity that will conflict with rehearsals, he/she will not be able to audition for this show. As an alternative, students can consider joining the tech crew. Tech crew meetings are flexible, and students will not always need to attend every meeting. Students on tech crew are involved in running the show. The tech crew designs and builds the sets and props; helps out with publicity, costumes and make-up; runs the lights, curtain and sound; and moves sets and props on and off stage throughout the performance.

Advisor: Mr. Reilly

Musical

The Middle School musical has been a tradition for more than 15 years. The musical typically involves a cast of 100 students and a technical crew of 50 students. Performances are usually the first weekend in February. Students audition and rehearse from late October through January. Student involvement is an integral part of the production, including character development, set building, costumes, makeup, lights

and sound. Past musicals have included *Peter Pan*, *Oliver*, *The Wizard of Oz* and *Beauty and the Beast*.

Advisor: Mr. Dashew

OTHER CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Television Studio Club

Students in this club broadcast the morning announcements each day using the school's television studio equipment. Students in TV club learn how to run different types of broadcasting equipment ranging from teleprompters to sound mixers. After learning to run the equipment, students are eligible to try out to be news anchors. The club meets daily during home-room and is open to students in grades seven and eight.

Advisors: Mr. Connelly, Ms. Ludik and Ms. Kerber

S.A.D.D.

Students Against Destructive Decisions (S.A.D.D.) is a peer leadership organization dedicated to preventing destructive decisions, particularly underage drinking, other drug use, impaired driving, teen violence and teen depression and suicide. The club's mission is to provide students with the best prevention and intervention tools possible to deal with these issues. This group has hosted guest speakers and organized many school activities like Red Ribbon Week, An Annual Walk for Wellness, February is Wellness month, Teens Against Tobacco Week, and Mix it Up Day at School. In additions, members have advocated within the community by selling "Stop DWI" magnets and distributing health awareness messages to families attending winter concerts. S.A.D.D. is open to students in grades seven and eight and meets every other week after school.

Advisors: Ms. Kaiser and Mr. Bixby

The Eagle Eye Aka Student Newspaper

The Eagle Eye staff is made up of students from grades six to eight who are interested in writing and editing articles for BCMS students. The newspaper is published once every six weeks and the group meets weekly in one of the LMC computer labs. Meetings are held

Tuesday after school. Student interested in writing can join anytime during the school year.

Advisor: Ms. Casey

Helping Hands Club

The Helping Hands Club is a democratic organization of students dedicated to reaching out to their community, nation and world as global citizens. They create, design and coordinate activities which help people and the environment. They also assist other organizations in similar endeavors when possible. The club meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Some of the club's previous activities include:

- Selling "rainforest" t-shirts to protect land in Central America and Asia.
- Making friendship bracelets, buttons and bluebird houses.
- Coordinating can drives to build a high school in Belize and education children in Africa.
- Coordinating an international art exchange
- Assisting the Delmar Kiwanis Club at Crossgates Mall to sell "Bells of Life"
- Assisting the Kiwanis Club at their pancake breakfasts.
- Coordinating a walk-a-thon for endangered animals.
- Posting educational environmental posters around the school.
- Making arts and crafts items as gifts for sick children.
- Visiting local residences for the elderly.

Advisor: Mr. Reilly

Student Councils

Each of grades six, seven and eight have their own student council open to all students in that particular grade level. The types of activities vary from year to year and among grade levels. Student Council meets at a regularly scheduled time three to four times a month. Additional meetings may be necessary for special events. Activities fall into several categories—school improvement, school spirit, community service,

promotion of grade-level activities and staff recognition. Examples of past activities include dances and/or socials, Adopt-A-Family, purchasing new water fountains, painting lockers, end-of-year activities and recognition of retiring staff members.

Advisors: Ms. Burns, Ms. VanSteele and Ms. Treffert

Science Academic Bowl

This club is for students who have a strong interest in science and math. The club meets once a week from November through March to prepare for the Regional Science Bowl competition. During this competition students engage in two events—a hydrogen car race and a science academic bowl. The Middle School team consists of five students selected from the club. They design and construct a model car powered by a fuel cell/hydrogen gas, which races against cars designed by teams from other area schools. Students then compete against these other schools in an academic bowl, trying to answer science-and math-related questions in a round robin format. The combined scores from the race, a quiz and academic bowl determine the winning team from our area who earns an all-expenses-paid trip to the National Science Bowl competition in Colorado.

Advisor: Ms. Reed

Science Club

Science Club is open to all eighth-grade students. The purpose to the club is to offer hands-on activities that further explore and enrich the physical science concepts introduced in the classroom. Students focus on problem solving, application of concepts through construction activities and friendly competition. Past projects have included model rocket building, soda bottle raft construction, musical instrument design, Rube Goldberg devices, NASA training activities and team problem solving. The interests of the members often determine the type of activities pursued. The club meets once a week throughout the year.

Advisor: Ms. Zemsky

Ski Club

This club is sponsored and supported by the Town of Bethlehem and is open to all BCMS students. Students attend an informational meeting in November, after which they may sign up for as many trips as they wish. Most trips are scheduled for Saturdays. The club travels to a variety of mountains, including Gore, Stratton, OKEMO, Bromley and Jiminy Peak, usually leaving from the Middle School at 6 a.m. and arriving back at the school at 6 p.m. This is a combined trip for Middle and High School students.

Advisor: Mr. Tyler

The "PIT"

The PIT is located in the basement of the Middle School and serves as an after school gathering place for BCMS students. The PIT is run by the Town of Bethlehem's Park and Recreation Department and is open Tuesday through Thursday from 2:46 – 3:45 p.m. starting in October. Games, snacks and music are available.

Advisor: Town of Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Dept.

Yearbook Club

The Yearbook Club is made up of eight-grade students who are interested in photography, layout design and using a web-based publishing program. Yearbook Club members work as a team to organize, design and create the Middle School Yearbook. Members also take many of the photos that are included in the yearbook. Meetings are held Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m.

Advisors: Ms. Ludik and Ms. White

BCMS Garden Club

The BCMS Garden Club is an environmental and community service project. Staff, students and parents work together to grow healthy organic produce for our school cafeteria and to tend our flower gardens. The BCMS Garden Club also attempts to raise awareness about important environmental issues that face our children. The Garden Club will meet twice a week, weather permitting, on Tuesdays and Thursday after School. Fall Garden Club season runs from the start of school until roughly the end of October, spring Garden

Club begins meeting in April until the end of the school year. Students can take the 4 p.m. late bus or be picked up by parents. Any changes to the usual Tuesday/Thursday schedule will be announced on the morning and afternoon announcements.

Advisor: Mr. Warford

Junior Chef Club

Food is a significant part of our daily lives. Besides being a basic need for survival, food is an important part of our cultural heritage, helps us celebrate important events and seasons, and connects us to our planet. The type of food that we eat and where our food comes from is an important part of our health and our environment. The Junior Chef Club will increase students' skills, knowledge, and techniques in food preparation using locally grown food from our school garden and the Delmar Farmers Market. The Junior Chef Club meets every other week on Thursday. Students participating in the club will also be asked to come in the following morning, before homeroom, to finish any clean up. A rotating schedule of before school helpers will be created. Students interested in the Junior Chef Club should contact Ms. Fitzpatrick in room 150. Junior Chef Club is funded by the Delmar Farmers' Market.

Advisors: Ms. Fitzpatrick and Ms. Hayes

French Club

The goal of the Middle School French Club is to promote confidence and success in French language learning through fun French games, music and cultural activities. French Club is open to all French students in grades 6-8.

Advisor: Ms. Grogan

Chess Club

Students in grades three to twelve are invited to come to club meetings where they can learn to play chess at any number of progressive levels from beginner to advanced. Club meetings, events and a participation form can be found on the club website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/bethlehemschoolschessclub/>. There is no charge to be a member of the club.

Club facilitator: Mr. Klugman

Astronomy Club

Students in grades six to twelve are invited to participate in club meetings (held at the Middle School) that are announced through morning announcements. Star Parties are held during months with warmer weather and are also announced through school announcements. All community members are invited to attend star parties. Star parties are weather dependent. There is no charge to be a member of the club. *Club facilitators: Mr. Klugman and Mr. Steve Relles (district parent and amateur astronomer)*

6th Grade Science Club

Sixth Grade Science Club welcomes who like to develop solutions to problems while having fun. Students work in groups to think, design and build models of objects such as earthquake-proof buildings, bridges, catapults and rockets, all using simple recycled and/or household materials. There are friendly competitions between groups, and mistakes are considered an opportunity to laugh and learn.

Advisors: Mrs. Dolen and Ms. Dolan

FIND A CLUB THAT INTERESTS YOU

Listen to the morning announcements for information about when a club will begin meeting.

IF YOU WANT TO START A CLUB...

You must secure the Principal's approval before any meetings can begin. Needed forms can be picked up in the Main Office.

PARTICIPATION IN STUDENT ACTIVITIES IS A PRIVILEGE

Students are required to be in attendance at school on the day they participate in any extra-curricular activity. Students who are assigned in-school/external suspension or after school detention will be barred from all school functions on the day of suspension or from the next scheduled function (including but, not limited to, any school or athletic events and dances). Inappropriate behavior at these activities will result in a referral and disciplinary action.

30 DAYS PRIOR TO SPECIAL EVENTS

Students with three or more referrals and/or a suspension will lose the privilege of attending the school event/function.

BECOME INVOLVED IN THE LIFE OF YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOL.