

# POPE JOHN XXIII REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

## CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES



2021-2022

## Academic Team

**Mission:** If you love trivia, geography, history, math, science, art, or English, the focus of the group is to prepare for a local competition held in February where Pope John competes against other Sussex County High Schools in a Quiz Bowl style competition over a series of several days.

**Grades:** 9th - 12th

**Meetings:** Fridays at 7:15am, meetings weekly

**Location:** 151

**Requirements:** An interest in trivia and an enthusiasm for competition.

Advisor: Mrs. Kathleen Piwko

[kathleenpiwko@popejohn.org](mailto:kathleenpiwko@popejohn.org)

## Ambassador Club

**Mission:** Student-ambassadors serve as representatives of Pope John High School during various on-campus events and recruitment programs. In Grades 8, 9 and 10, student-ambassadors are likely to help with our "Lion For A Day" shadow program and to assist with on-campus events. In Grades 11 and 12, student-ambassadors are involved in the aforementioned tasks, as well as some basic recruitment initiatives.

**Grades:** 8th - 12th

**Meetings:** Announced via Schoology

**Location:** Admission Suite or Room 151

**Requirements:** An interest in trivia and an enthusiasm for competition.

Advisors: Mr. George Mihalik & Mrs. Anne Kaiser

[georgemihalik@popejohn.org](mailto:georgemihalik@popejohn.org)

[annekaiser@popejohn.org](mailto:annekaiser@popejohn.org)

## American Spirit Performers

**Mission:** The American Spirit Performers are a patriotic singing group dedicated to conveying love for our nation and capturing its spirit in their deeds and songs. Anyone may recommend a student for membership based on the following criteria: outstanding character, academic achievement, service to America, and vocal ability.

**Grades:** 8th - 12th

**Meetings:** TBD

**Location:** Old Gym - Stage

**Requirements:** None

Advisor: Mrs. Jacquelyn Burt

[jacquelynburt@popejohn.org](mailto:jacquelynburt@popejohn.org)

## BRC Book Club

Mission: To ignite an interest in reading and to encourage students to share their love of reading with one another.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Announced through Schoology, meetings every 2-3 weeks depending on book & content selected

Location: Biondo Research Center

Requirements: The desire to read.

Advisor: Mrs. Judith Zoeller

[judithzoeller@popejohn.org](mailto:judithzoeller@popejohn.org)

## Business Club

Mission: To create a forum for students interested in business as a major and career path. The club will provide information on the many different business majors and host special speakers that can provide industry experience and insights to help students better understand those majors & fields.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Announced via Schoology, every Wednesday or Thursday depending on which falls on a B Day

Location: TBD

Requirements: None.

Advisor: Mrs. Grace Halevy & Mr. Brian Carlson

[gracehalevy@popejohn.org](mailto:gracehalevy@popejohn.org)

[briancarlson@popejohn.org](mailto:briancarlson@popejohn.org)

## Chess Team

Mission: To compete with other schools in chess matches. Our players compete in state chess tournaments as well as national tournaments, culminating in the High School National Tournament. This is in addition to weekly practice and matches with other high school teams.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Every Monday after school (2:45-4:00)

Location: Biondo Research Center

Requirements: The desire to play chess competitively and a commitment to practice in order to improve.

Advisor: Mr. Giovannone

[josephgiovannone@popejohn.org](mailto:josephgiovannone@popejohn.org)

## Debate Club

Mission: To teach good speech and research skills, while giving students a good professional way to debate in a variety of situations. This club competes in local competitions against other high schools.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Waiting for league to confirm 2021-2022 season

Location: TBD

Requirements: TBD

Advisor: Mr. Brian Vohden

[brianvohden@popejohn.org](mailto:brianvohden@popejohn.org)

## Fencing Club

Mission: The goal of the Pope John Fencing Club is to develop men and women to become competitive fencers at the middle school and high school level who can someday compete in team fencing tournaments for Pope John. We welcome beginners and advanced fencers alike to come and train in a friendly, supportive, yet competitive environment. Our program offers instruction on all three weapons- sabre, epee, and foil, although fencers specialize and compete with one weapon.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: TBD

Location: NFA - Sparta PAL - 38 Station Road, Sparta, NJ

Requirements: None

Advisor: Mr. Mark Trudnos

[mark@nationalfencing.com](mailto:mark@nationalfencing.com)

## Film Club

Mission: This club will provide its members an opportunity to view and discuss great movies from cult classics to quirky contemporaries. Members will develop a better appreciation for film and cinema.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Announced through Schoology

Location: Room 114

Requirements: None

Advisor: Mr. Bruce Shuert

[bruceshuert@popejohn.org](mailto:bruceshuert@popejohn.org)

## French Club

Mission: This club will provide its members with the opportunity to speak French, learn about French culture, eat French food, and receive help with French schoolwork.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Announced through Schoology; once per month in the mornings

Location: Room 226

Requirements: None

Advisor: Mrs. Giulia Gavin

[giuliagavin@popejohn.org](mailto:giuliagavin@popejohn.org)

## FTC Robotics

Mission: Competitive robotics team for high school students. Our FTC teams frequently compete at the national level where students design, build, program, and test a robot that fits in an 18" cube. The robot plays a game against other schools; the game changes each season. A varsity letter in robotics is available for top team members.

Grades: 9th - 12th

Meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00pm to 6:00pm & Saturdays from 9:00am to 12:00pm; may vary based on competition schedule

Location: Rectory Basement

Requirements: No prior robotics experience necessary

Advisor: Mrs. Katherine Rizzo

[katherinerizzo@popejohn.org](mailto:katherinerizzo@popejohn.org)

## German Club

Mission: German Club allows the Pope John community educational and fun opportunities to learn more about German culture, history and traditions. Club members will take part in cultural festivals like Oktoberfest, watch German cinema, learn German folk dances, and dive into German music, running the gamut from classical to *Schlagerhits*.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Announced through Schoology, twice a month in the morning.

Location: Room 208

Requirements: None

Advisor: Ms. Allison Zuckerman

[allisonzuckerman@popejohn.org](mailto:allisonzuckerman@popejohn.org)

## German Honor Society

- Mission: Delta Epsilon Phi National Honor Society for High School Students of German recognizes students who have demonstrated a proficiency and propensity for the German language and culture. With this distinction comes responsibility. Students are required to offer their support by tutoring their peers as necessary and support the work of the German Club.
- Grades: 10th - 12th
- Meetings: TBD
- Location: Room 208
- Requirements: Students who are enrolled in the third level of study, having completed each year with a final grade of 90 or above are eligible for consideration. Additionally, students must maintain a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 and receive administrative approval for admission.

Advisor: Ms. Allison Zuckerman

[allisonzuckerman@popejohn.org](mailto:allisonzuckerman@popejohn.org)

## Girls Who Code

- Mission: To close the gender gap in technology and to change the image of what a programmer looks like and does. Explore coding in a fun and friendly environment, and work on programming projects that solve real-world problems of interest. Learn about women in tech, robotics, cybersecurity, how to design web sites, apps, games and much more.
- Grades: 8th - 12th
- Meetings: Lunch/Advisory period; announced via Schoology
- Location: Room 214
- Requirements: None

Advisor: Mrs. Elizabeth Buniak

[elizabethbuniak@popejohn.org](mailto:elizabethbuniak@popejohn.org)

## Green Team

- Mission: To promote a sustainable home, school, and community through activities and projects.
- Grades: 8th - 12th
- Meetings: TBD
- Location: Room 408
- Requirements: None

Advisor: Mrs. Judith Loff

[judithloff@popejohn.org](mailto:judithloff@popejohn.org)

## Habitat for Humanity

**Mission:** Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials from the support of local businesses, churches, individual donors and fundraising events, Habitat for Humanity builds and rehabilitates houses in partnership with families in need.

Want to make a huge difference in the life of a family and in the community by joining us? There are many ways you can support Habitat for Humanity.

**Meetings:** Announced through Schoology and vary depending on service projects

**Location:** Room 103

**Requirements:** Students under 16

- ~Volunteer at the ReStore located in each county
- ~Make lunches for the volunteers at each build
- ~Assist in collection drives
- ~Create posters for fundraising events
- ~Participate in fundraising events

Students over 16

- ~Construction volunteers must be at least 16 years of age to be present on an active build site.

Youth volunteers ages 16 or 17 years old must be accompanied by an adult chaperone. One adult chaperone is required for every 5 youth volunteers.

- ~Assist in collection drives
- ~Create posters for and participate in fundraising events

**Advisors:** Ms. Susan Haggerty

[susanhaggerty@popejohn.org](mailto:susanhaggerty@popejohn.org)

## Help Us Rise (HUR)

**Mission:** To help and empower low-income women and single mothers to pursue educational and financial independence in partnership with and in supporting local non-profit organizations. The organization hosts guest speakers to discuss important topics.

**Grades:** 8th - 12th

**Meetings:** Wednesdays (once per month)

**Location:** Room 204

**Requirements:** None

**Advisor:** Mrs. Jacquelyn Burt

[jacquelynburt@popejohn.org](mailto:jacquelynburt@popejohn.org)

## Italian Club

**Mission:** To develop an understanding and appreciation for Italian culture, with a special emphasis on the Italian-American experience. Club members are encouraged to explore their Italian heritage. Cultural activities may include cooking, corresponding with pen pals and exploring Italian music and art. Past field trips have included Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty, The Tenement Museum, and lunch in Little Italy.

**Grades:** 8th - 12th

**Meetings:** Announced through Schoology; once per month in the mornings

**Location:** Room 226

**Requirements:** None

Advisor: Mrs. Giulia Gavin

[giuliagavin@popejohn.org](mailto:giuliagavin@popejohn.org)

## Key Club

**Mission:** An international student-led organization with opportunities to perform service and develop character and leadership skills. Key Club is actively involved in the school community from coat-drives to helping with Back-to-School Night.

**Grades:** 8th - 12th

**Meetings:** Thursdays at 7:30am

**Location:** Room 408

**Requirements:** Two service hours in a Key Club activity and membership dues of \$20 per year for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders.

Advisors: Mrs. Judith Loff

[judithloff@popejohn.org](mailto:judithloff@popejohn.org)

## Mental Health Awareness Club

**Mission:** The purpose of the Mental Health Awareness Club is to advocate mental health awareness among students and eliminate the stigma against it. Education is key when it comes to the censorship that has surrounded mental health. This club provides a safe space to discuss the importance of mental illness - anxiety, stress and depression.

**Grades:** 8th - 12th

**Meetings:** Every other Friday during Lunch/Advisory A

**Location:** 104

**Requirements:** Students are asked to be open minded, non-judgmental, and compassionate

Advisor: Mrs. Lauren Espinosa

[laurenepinosa@popejohn.org](mailto:laurenepinosa@popejohn.org)



## Microscopy Club

**Mission:** Explore the microscopic world and join the next generation of innovators in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The Microscopy Club uses state-of-the-art software and sophisticated optical microscopy equipment, particularly the school's Hitachi S-530 Scanning Electron Microscope. Pope John XXIII is one of the few campuses nationwide to own a SEM, so take advantage of this rare opportunity.

**Grades:** 8th - 12th

**Meetings:** TBD

**Location:** Room 401

**Requirements:** TBD

**Advisor:** Mrs. Patricia Olsen

[patriciaolsen@popejohn.org](mailto:patriciaolsen@popejohn.org)

## Mock Trial

**Mission:** To educate students with regards to the fundamentals of the American court system. Through role-playing, the students will have the opportunity to develop skills in critical thinking and public speaking, while experiencing the setting of a real courtroom. Mock Trial is an excellent opportunity for students interested in pursuing a career in law as well as other related fields.

**Grades:** 9th - 12th

**Meetings:** During advisory period; after-school based on competition schedule

**Location:** Room 202

**Requirements:** None

**Advisor:** Mrs. Laurie Lynch

[laurielynch@popejohn.org](mailto:laurielynch@popejohn.org)

## Mu Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society)

**Mission:** To recognize academic excellence in mathematics and encourage students to enjoy and build confidence in math. The society helps to provide math tutoring to students in the Academy and participates in math contests throughout the year.

**Grades:** 10th - 12th

**Meetings:** Announced through Schoology

**Location:** Room 111

**Requirements:** Have a MATH GPA that equates to 85 or above in all honors level math courses and a 93 or above in all accelerated level math courses. Also, must have been enrolled in at least one honors

level or higher math course. In addition, maintain an overall GPA > pi, and have completed or be currently enrolled in a Pre-Calculus course.

Advisor: Mr. Joseph Giovannone

[josephgiovannone@popejohn.org](mailto:josephgiovannone@popejohn.org)

## Multicultural Club

Mission: To become more aware and accepting of cultural diversity, and help build a stronger sense of community among students.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Announced via Schoology; every other Wednesday at 7:25 am

Location: Room 212

Requirements: None

Advisor: Mrs. Cathy Conlee

[catherineconlee@popejohn.org](mailto:catherineconlee@popejohn.org)

## National Honor Society

Mission: To demonstrate leadership, scholarship, service and character in the students' community, school and church.

Grades: 11th - 12th

Meetings: 7:15am as needed; after-school based on service projects

Location: Room 115

Requirements: Open to Juniors and Seniors with a 3.75 GPA or higher. 60+ service hours for Juniors and 75+ service hours for Seniors. Students must also demonstrate leadership and character. Eligible students will be invited to apply.

Advisors: Mrs. Rosario and Mrs. Maneri

[jessicarosario@popejohn.org](mailto:jessicarosario@popejohn.org)

[margaretmaneri@popejohn.org](mailto:margaretmaneri@popejohn.org)

## Operation Smile Club

Mission: Works with the nonprofit medical service organization "Operation Smile". Operation Smile has provided over 220,000 free surgeries for children born with a cleft lip or cleft palate. Club members will hold events to raise money for these needed surgeries. Members will make cards and smile bags for children recovering from these surgeries.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: 1st Thursday of every month during Advisory A

Location: Room 212

Requirements: None

Advisor: Mrs. Catherine Conlee

[catherineconlee@popejohn.org](mailto:catherineconlee@popejohn.org)

## Pawprints

Mission: To raise awareness for dogs in shelters and rescues, do meaningful volunteer work, and learn the value of all of God's creatures.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Announced via Schoology; twice per month

Location: Old Gym

Requirements: None

Advisor: Mrs. Donna Keller

[donnakeller@popejohn.org](mailto:donnakeller@popejohn.org)

## Philosophy Club

Mission: We discuss deep questions, like "Who am I?" and "How can I be sure of my reality?" We meet to discuss short philosophical readings, classical thinkers, and big ideas, new and old. We also host guest speakers and play philosophy-based games.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Announced via Schoology, twice per month during advisory period

Location: 208

Requirements: None

Advisor: Ms. Allison Zuckerman

[allisonzuckerman@popejohn.org](mailto:allisonzuckerman@popejohn.org)

## Photography Club

Mission: The purpose of the Photography Club is to enhance students' appreciation of photography as an art form and develop basic skills with a digital camera. Students will have an opportunity to photograph school events and have their photos published on social media, the school website and print publications.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: TBD

Location: Room 151

Requirements: None

Advisor: Mr. Austin Braun

[austinbraun@popejohn.org](mailto:austinbraun@popejohn.org)

## Pope John Players

**Mission:** To provide students with exciting opportunities to audition for, stage and perform two productions annually for Pope John and the greater community at large. These productions are run at the professional level in accord with commonly accepted theatrical principles in order to offer experiences in acting, singing, dance, stagecraft, instrumental pit music, lighting, makeup, choreography, directing and producing. Licensing from professional vendors insures production quality. Select performance numbers then travel to various competitions throughout the county and state. Students have various enjoyable experiences including laser tag, family dinners, cast brunches and service opportunities including the Senior Citizen performance. Past productions include "Les Miserables", "Hairspray", "Twelve Angry Men", "Pippin", "Fiddler on the Roof", "Aida", "The Crucible", "A Few Good Men" and "Steel Magnolias".

**Grades:** 8th - 12th

**Meetings:** Following open information meetings the Common Casting week for both the fall drama and the spring musical begins the third week of September. Rehearsals for both shows start shortly thereafter.

**Location:** Music Room and the Stage

**Requirements:** No experience necessary.

**Advisor:** Mrs. Jacquelyn Burt

[jacquelynburt@popejohn.org](mailto:jacquelynburt@popejohn.org)

## Red Cross Club

**Mission:** To work with the New Jersey chapter of the American Red Cross to help our local community through the Annual Blood Drive, CPR training and certification, as well as supplying First Aid Kits to all classrooms at Pope John.

**Grades:** 8th - 12th

**Meetings:** First Tuesday of every month at 7:30am

**Location:** Room 201

**Requirements:** None

**Advisor:** Mrs. Katherine Stehr

[katherinestehr@popejohn.org](mailto:katherinestehr@popejohn.org)

## Ski & Snowboard Club

**Mission:** To provide students the ability to ski and snowboard in a non-competitive environment at Mountain Creek, Vernon NJ. The club

helps to coordinate affordable transportation and lift tickets to all PJHS students.

Grades: 8th - 12th  
Meetings: January & February 2021 (specific dates TBD)  
Location: Mountain Creek, Vernon NJ  
Requirements: Basic skiing and/or snowboarding skills

Advisor: Mr. Matthew Fowler

[matthewfowler@popejohn.org](mailto:matthewfowler@popejohn.org)

## Students Against Bullying (SAB)

Mission: To treat others with respect and kindness. To foster an environment where all students feel safe and have a sense of belonging. To work in collaboration to prevent all forms of bullying through education and outreach. To help those being bullied and foster an atmosphere of acceptance.

Grades: 8th - 12th  
Meetings: Announced through Schoology  
Location: Room 202  
Requirements: None

Advisors: Mrs. Catherine Kiff-Vozza, Mr. Joseph Giovannone, & Mrs. Laurie Lynch

[catherinekiffvozza@popejohn.org](mailto:catherinekiffvozza@popejohn.org)

[josephgiovannone@popejohn.org](mailto:josephgiovannone@popejohn.org)

[laurielynch@popejohn.org](mailto:laurielynch@popejohn.org)

## SEARCH

Mission: To provide weekend retreats oriented to the SEARCH for Christian maturity.

Grades: 11th - 12th

Meetings: Team leaders meet weekly in preparation for the once-per-semester retreats; invitees attend the retreat only

Location: Fairview Lakes

Requirements: Students in 11th or 12th grade of exceptional character, able to contribute positively to the Faith element of our school community.

Advisors: Mr. Joseph Giovannone & Ms. Pelagia Minsavage

[josephgiovannone@popejohn.org](mailto:josephgiovannone@popejohn.org)

[pelagiaminsavage@popejohn.org](mailto:pelagiaminsavage@popejohn.org)

## Spanish Club

Mission: To provide the opportunity to develop a respect, understanding, and appreciation for Hispanic cultures.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Last Friday of the month at 7:20 am

Location: Biondo Research Center

Requirements: Interest in Hispanic cultures; knowledge of Spanish is not required

Advisor: Dr. Susana Maiztegui

[susanaiztegui@popejohn.org](mailto:susanaiztegui@popejohn.org)

## Spanish Honor Society

Mission: Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica recognizes students who have demonstrated a proficiency and propensity for the Spanish language and culture. With this distinction comes responsibility. Students are required to offer their support by tutoring their peers as necessary and support the work of the Spanish Club.

Grades: 10th - 12th

Meetings: TBD

Location: Room 106

Requirements: Students who are enrolled in the third level of study, having completed each year with a final grade of 90 or above are eligible for consideration. Additionally, students must maintain a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 and receive administrative approval for admission.

Advisor: Mrs. Sofia Partida

[sofiapartida@popejohn.org](mailto:sofiapartida@popejohn.org)

## Sussex Rowing Club

Mission: To develop an interest in rowing and improve one's skills to be able to compete at local regattas.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Location: Sleepy Lagoon on Lake Mohawk, Sparta NJ

Requirements: None

Advisor: Mr. Michael Schleer

[michaelschleer@popejohn.org](mailto:michaelschleer@popejohn.org)

## Writing Plus Club

Mission: To provide a forum in which students can have their writing proof-read and edited prior to submission. Students are encouraged to come and strengthen their writing skills while also serving as peer-editors for their classmates writing.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Every Thursday from 2:45 pm to 4:00 pm

Location: Room 116

Requirements: None

Advisor: Dr. Ronda Oosterhoff

[rondaosterhoff@popejohn.org](mailto:rondaosterhoff@popejohn.org)

## Zero Robotics

Mission: Students compete by programming robotic satellites in zero G space environment on board the international space station. Our team frequently competes at the national level. Varsity letter in robotics awarded to top team members. (Team currently waiting for competition to be resumed by MIT - interrupted due to Covid)

Grades: 9th - 12th

Meetings: TBD - will update when competition begins again

Location: Computer Lab 211

Requirements: An intensive training workshop must be passed by all students who wish to join the team. The workshop requires 30 to 60 hours of effort.

Advisor: Mr. Joseph Giovannone

[josephgiovannone@popejohn.org](mailto:josephgiovannone@popejohn.org)

# Pope John XXIII Regional High School

## New Club Criteria & Proposal Form

To be eligible for consideration as a club sponsored by Pope John XXIII Regional High School, a club must meet the following criteria:

1. Evidence of sufficient student interest (15 signatures)
2. Congruence with the Pope John XXIII Mission Statement
3. Availability of an appropriate faculty/adult sponsor
4. Inclusiveness
5. No significant duplication of purpose, goals, or activities of an existing school-sponsored club

The following form must be filled out in order to start a new club or activity. The completed form should be presented to Mr. Emering. A meeting will follow to discuss the proposal.

### Person presenting the proposal:

Name:	_____
Email:	_____
Phone #:	_____

### Name of proposed club/activity:

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### General description of purpose of proposed club/activity:

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### Goals of proposed club/activity:

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### List at least four activities or events students will participate in:

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**How will your club/activity benefit the students of Pope John High School?**

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**When and how often do you intend to meet?**

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**Faculty Sponsor/Advisor Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Faculty Sponsor/Advisor Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Student petition (15 signatures from students who are interested in this club/activity - please include at least one student from every grade.)

Printed Name	Signature	Grade
1.		
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