

Dakota Hills Club & Athletics Descriptions



Note: Subject to changes based on student interest

2023-24

Band Ensemble (Jeff Christiansen, Kyle Frost, Laura Johnson)

A variety of ensembles will be offered throughout the year during FLEX. These include Jazz Band, Flute Choir, Clarinet Choir, and Percussion Ensemble. Participation in these groups is determined by student audition, attitude, and director discretion. More information available from a band director.

Chess Club (Jack Stassi, \$44 fee via MyPaymentsPlus)

Matches with other students, study of attack and defense schemes: competitive, curious or fun. Starts in January (to April) with 5-6 matches against other District #196 middle schools.

Choir Ensemble (Jane Samsal)

FLEX choir is an opportunity for choir students to have more singing during the week. There is a 6th Grade group and a 7th/8th Grade group. They get to sing extra at the concert, sing contemporary music, and sometimes vote on what songs we sing. It is a wonderful collaboration of singers!

Coding and Python (Community Education Offering)

Students have had the opportunity learn how to program in two different ways. Coding courses use MIT's online "Scratch" coding program to teach kids basic programming. In the Python coding class students use Python coding language, which is more advanced coding language. Participation is done thru Community Ed.

Declam/Speech (Eric Schmidt, \$44 fee via MyPaymentsPlus)

Students choose to participate in one of ten categories ranging from interpretation of literature to writing and presenting one's own persuasive speech. Three Saturday morning and one Friday afternoon competitions in January/February.

Destination Imagination (Eric Schmidt)

A parent-coached activity where students perform a variety of challenges requiring problem-solving skills.

Drama/Theatre: Fall Play (Nichela Urbanciz, point-of-contact: Melissa Tapper, fee collected after auditions)

Starts in the first week of school with three late October performances. Lead and supporting actor roles, non-speaking roles, stage and tech crew opportunities for students.

Drama/Theatre: Spring Musical (Laura Glorvigen, point-of-contact: Melissa Tapper, fee collected after auditions)

Starts just after winter break with three performances in late March. Singing roles and larger cast. Stage and tech crew opportunities as well.

Genius Hour (Eric Schmidt)

Students learn more about any topic of interest that fascinates them.

Geography Bee (Eric Schmidt)

Students answer questions about geography in an elimination format, with one student representative qualifying for the state tournament.

History Day (Chris Scott)

For students with a passion for history. Researching and creating a presentation board and information for competition

Math Club – Math League (Melissa Tapper, \$44 fee via MyPaymentsPlus)

Students solve math problems both individually and in group format in competition with other middle schools. Math Club then flows into math league on a more regional/metro level.

Origami Club (Karin Logerquist)

Students will practice and perfect paper folding skills under the lead of student origami enthusiasts.

Pumpkin Carving (School-wide during FLEX)

Students carve pumpkins used to decorate the school for Halloween. This takes place after-school just a few days prior to Halloween. Prizes in a variety of categories. Pumpkins are displayed in the media center.

Scholastic Scrimmage (Eric Schmidt)

In teams of five, students answer academic trivia questions against other teams within ISD 196.

Ski Club (Toni Knudson, costs vary and will be paid via MyPaymentsPlus)

Three trips on Fridays after school (return approx. 9 PM) in January-February (*day of week may change*)

Spelling Bee (Eric Schmidt)

Students spell words in an elimination format, with one student from each grade recognized as grade-level champion.

Stock Market Game (Eric Schmidt)

In teams of one to five, students are given a mock-bankroll with which they can buy and sell stock.

Student Council (Maureen Bechard, Jim Zupfer)

Students meet monthly, determine uses of magazine drive funds, charity drives, spirit themes, etc.

World Language Club (Priscilla Mudd and Renae Elert)

Extend your knowledge and experiences in the French (Elert) and Spanish (Mudd) cultures beyond the classroom

Writers United (Eric Schmidt)

Students with a love for writing meet once per month and write, write, write.

Yearbook Staff (Heather Thaller)

Seventh and eighth grade students work with an online program to design the yearbook.

Young Author's Conference (Eric Schmidt)

Students attend classes at Bethel College related to writing (one full school day event in the spring)

Youth in Government (Eric Schmidt)

Sponsored by the local YMCA, students participate in a three-day conference that simulates government legislation activity. The Youth In Government activity is for eighth grade students only.

Athletics

Any student participating in a school-sponsored sports team must have a doctor's athletic physical report given to the DHMS nurse **prior** to making the fee payment in MyPaymentsPlus. Students who do not have a physical on file with our nurse will not be allowed to practice or participate. Without a current sports physical on file, the sports item will not appear as an option to pay in the MyPaymentsPlus system.

All sports have a fee of \$110 paid via MyPaymentsPlus, regardless of equipment, number of contests, or duration of season

Fall (September 8th thru October 28th)

- **Cross Country: Boys and Girls** (grades 6, 7, 8)
- **Gymnastics (@EHS): Girls** (grades 7, 8)
- **Soccer: Boys and Girls** (grades 7, 8)
- **Tennis: Girls** (grades 7, 8)
- **Volleyball: Girls** (grades 7, 8)

Winter I (October 31st thru December 21st)

- **Basketball: Girls** (grades 7, 8)
- **Wrestling: Boys** (grades 6, 7, 8)

Winter II (January 4th thru February 24th)

- **Basketball: Boys** (grades 7, 8)

Winter III (February 27th thru April 14th)

- **Swimming: Boys and Girls** (grades 7, 8)

Spring (April 17th thru June 1st)

- **Tennis: Boys** (grades 7, 8)
- **Track: Boys and Girls** (grades 7, 8)

Note: Football (fall), Baseball (spring), and Softball (spring) are available thru the Eagan Athletic Association (EAA): information is available at: www.easports.org/

Note: Most sports start at 7th grade. Only fall cross-country (running) and winter wrestling are available as school sports for 6th grade participation. The local Eagan Athletic Association (EAA) is a source for seasonal 6th grade sports participation at: www.easports.org/

