

# Dakota Hills Club & Athletics Descriptions

Note: Subject to changes based on student interest



2023-24

## Band Ensemble (Jeff Christiansen, Kyle Frost, Laura Doebler)

A variety of ensembles will be offered throughout the year during FLEX. These include Jazz Band, Flute Choir, Clarinet Choir, and Percussion Ensemble. Participation is determined by student audition, attitude, and director discretion.

## Chess Club (Advisor TBD, \$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 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade group and a 6<sup>th</sup> grade group. They get to sing extra concert pieces, contemporary music, vote on what songs, a wonderful collaboration!

## 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. Four Saturday morning competitions in January/February.

## Drama/Theatre: Fall Play (TBD, 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 (TBD, 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.

## Dungeons & Dragons Club (TBD)

A structured yet open-ended, fictional, role-playing game with students in groups around a table. A Dungeon Master facilitates, controls monsters and non-player characters, and narrates the story. Players act out characters such as elf warlock or paladin.

## GSA (Erica Kunert and Eric Schmidt)

This student-led group offers a safe space to meet and discuss ways to help support friends who may be questioning their identity, and promote a more inclusive and accepting learning environment for all students.

## 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 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 (TBD, \$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.

## Pumpkin Carving (Karin Logerquist and Tom Schulz, fee varies and yet-to-be determined)

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 or four trips, usually 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 two to four, 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, activities or field trips will be fee based and communicated later)

Students with a love for writing meet twice each month and write, write, write.

### Xtreme Adventures (Mary Sonneborn)

Wednesdays after school. Some study time and homework support followed by in-building activities or some field trips: bowling, library, ice-fishing, etc.

### 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 7<sup>th</sup> thru October 27<sup>th</sup>)

- 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 30<sup>th</sup> thru December 20<sup>th</sup>)

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

### **Winter II** (January 4<sup>th</sup> thru February 23<sup>rd</sup>)

- Basketball: Boys (7<sup>th</sup> grade only)

### **Winter III** (February 26<sup>th</sup> thru April 16<sup>th</sup>)

- Basketball: Boys (8<sup>th</sup> grade only)
- Swimming: Boys and Girls (grades 7, 8)

### **Spring** (April 17<sup>th</sup> thru May 31<sup>st</sup>)

- 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/](http://www.easports.org/)

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

