

Dakota Hills Club & Athletics Descriptions



Note: Subject to changes based on student interest

2024-25

Band Ensemble (Jeff Christiansen, Kyle Frost, Laura Doebler, Steve Schmitz)

A variety of instrumental ensembles are offered during FLEX. These include Jazz Band or a variety of instrument groups (clarinet, flute, percussion, woodwind, sax, etc.) Groups are determined by audition, commitment, and director discretion.

Chess Club (Advisor TBD, \$44 fee via Edutrak)

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 7th-8th grade group and a 6th 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 Edutrak)

Students choose to participate in one of ten categories ranging from interpretation of literature to writing and presenting one's own persuasive speech. Four 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 (Kari Rahlf, Cindy Borgerding, 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. The Fall Play 2024 is "The Snow White Variety Show" (a fast-paced comedy)

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)

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.

Geography Bee (Eric Schmidt)

Students answer questions about geography in an elimination format.

Math Club – Math League (TBD, \$44 fee via Edutrak)

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.

Robotics/First Lego League-FLL (Trevor Johnson)

Team organization occurs in May, four months prior to the start of school. This is due to the Lego field challenges release on August 1st and summer time for registration, ordering parts/kits, etc. Teams practice and work from August to December.

This is a parent-coached activity. Students in groups of 5-7 use Lego Technic parts to assemble, program, and automate a robot to perform mechanical tasks on 4' x 8' field with objects and obstacles. We use Minnesota High Tech Kids to help teams organize as they are much more capable of guiding and informing teams and parent-coaches on the aspects of team start-up, costs, registration, equipment and field kit purchases, tournament dates, etc.

[Hightechkids.org](https://hightechkids.org)

May HTK Info Mtg: <https://hightechkids.org/informational-meeting-may-22-2024/>

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

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

Spelling Bee (Eric Schmidt)

Students spell words in an elimination format, with one student qualifying for a regional competition.

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, form school spirit theme days, identify outreach/charity drive causes and charity drive funds.

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 each 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, activities or field trips will be fee based and communicated later)

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 Edutrak. Students who do not have a physical on file with our nurse will not be allowed to register, practice or participate... this may delay your sign-up, and sports-team space is limited. Without a current sports physical on file, the sports item will not appear as an option to pay in the Edutrak system.

Participation is on a first-come-first-served basis via your Edutrak registration. Because we have limits on the number of field/gym spaces, and the number of coaches for varied sports, there is a limit to the number of kids able to participate.

Submitting your child's sports physical still requires at least 24 hours to process before any sign-ups can take place via Edutrak. It is possible for the capacity of teams to be filled, and for students to be denied participation on this basis.

If venue space and number of teams limit the number of participants, then 8th and 7th grade students will get top priority for participation on teams or clubs.

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

Fall (September 9th thru October 23rd)

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

Winter I (October 28th thru December 13th)

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

Winter II (January 6th thru February 21st)

- Basketball: Boys (7th grade only)

Winter III (February 24th thru April 15th)

- Basketball: Boys (8th grade only)
- Swimming: Boys and Girls (grades 6, 7, 8)

Spring (April 17th thru May 30th)

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

Information on High School Sports available to middle school students

Inquiries about start-up, sign-up, try-outs, etc. should be directed to the high school.

High School Sports for Girls:

- Gymnastics (grades 7-12)
- Adapted Sports (grades 7-12)
- Hockey (grades 7-12)
- Dance (grades 8-12)
- Alpine skiing (grades 7-12)
- Nordic skiing (grades 7-12)
- Softball (grades 7-12)

High School Sports for Boys:

- Adapted Sports (grades 7-12)
- Alpine skiing (grades 7-12)
- Nordic skiing (grades 7-12)

Note: Most sports start at 7th grade. Only cross-country, wrestling, and swimming are available for 6th graders. The Eagan Athletic Association (EAA at www.eaasports.org/) is a source for seasonal 6th grade sports options.

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