

Dakota Hills Club & Athletics Descriptions

DRAFT

Note: Subject to changes based on student interest



2025-26

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!

Debate Club (Eric Schmidt, \$44 fee via Edutrak)

For seven weeks in April/May students learn Public Forum Debate. Students work in pairs, choose a topic, write a case, then present their debate twice. Debate students from EHS provide help. Enrollment opens in March and is capped at 24 students.

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

Students choose to participate in one of nine categories ranging from interpretation of literature to writing and presenting one's own persuasive speech. Four competitions in January.

Drama/Theatre: Fall Play (Caitlin Featherstone, Fall/September auditions... sign up in Edutrak occurs 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 2025 is yet to be determined.

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 (Carly Wohlers and Quinn Longueville)

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.

Faith Club (Christian) (Tera Runquist)

This student-led group offers a space to meet share and grow your faith, and meet friends. This group generally meets once per week in the morning.

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 multiple choice format.

Math Club – Math League (Karsten Johnson, \$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.

Robotics/First Lego League-FLL (Trevor Johnson)

Minnesota High Tech Kids in the info and start-up source for teams organize as they are much more capable of guidance. Information on team start-up, costs, registration, equipment and field kit purchases, tournament dates, etc.

Minnesota FLL URL: hightechkids.org

High Tech Kids Info: <https://hightechkids.org/fll-overview/>

Teams self-organize and should do so before summer. This allows time for registration, purchase of robot and field kits, and some assembly which should occur before August 1st when FLL releases the field challenges/tasks on August 1st.

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 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.

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 University 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, regardless of the first-come-first served sign up process.

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

Fall (September 8th thru October 24th)

- **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 27th thru December 17th)

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

Winter II (January 5th thru February 20th)

- Basketball: Boys (7th grade only)

Winter III (February 23rd thru April 15th)

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

Spring (April 16th thru May 29th)

- 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/