Nipher After-School Activity Club Descriptions 2025-2026

#	Nipher After-School Activity	Description of Open Clubs (Open to all students; no additional costs or attendance requirements. Must sign up daily through Sign-Up Genius email)
1	**Battle of the Books** Hosts: Mrs. Connolly and Mrs. White	Do you love to read? Be on our Battle of the Books Team and help us compete with other schools in our annual competition. Let's go, Nipher Knights! **Meeting details**: First Wednesdays of the month in the Nipher Library
2	**Chess Club** Host: Mrs. Griffin	If you are interested in learning to play Chess or if you already enjoy playing Chess, you are welcome to join us for Chess Club! All skill levels are welcome. **Meeting details**: Select Wednesdays in the Nipher Student Center
3	**Dance Club** Hosts: Ms. Sury and Ms. Wilke	Who: Anyone! (Dance Experience or none). Calling all students who love to dance! You will be learning combos, creating choreography, and just having a fun time with friends. We would love to have people with dance experience; however, it is not required! **Meeting details**: Semester 2 on Tuesdays in room S-001 (FACS)

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4	**Drama Club** Host: Ms. Oliphant	Come one, come all! Students: This is your chance to come expand your theatrical skills and see what it takes to be in a show. We will explore technical elements, acting, and rehearsals. **Meeting details**: Thursdays during Q4 in the drama room (N-108)
5	**Dungeons & Dragons (D&D)** Host: Mr. Fulton	Hello, future adventurers! In this club you will learn the basics on how to play Dungeons and Dragons, form your own adventuring groups, and build a sense of community by taking on whatever challenges your Game Master throws your way. Any level of experience is welcome in this cooperative space for collaborative storytelling! **Meeting details**: Thursdays in the Nipher Library or Cafeteria
6	**Equations Club** Host: Mrs. Stoffel	Equations: The Game of Creative Mathematics is an arithmetic based game for people of all ages. Participating in Nipher's Equations Club includes learning how to play the game, practicing the art of friendly competition, and bonding over breakfast! It is a great opportunity for math-minded kids to have fun with numbers, increase their math skills and make new early morning friends! **Meeting details**: Friday mornings at 7:10 AM in Mrs. Stoffel's room (S-101)

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7	**Fantasy Football Club** Host: Mr. Earnhart	Interested in Fantasy Football here at Nipher? Want to draft a team and compete against your fellow students in a week-to-week, head-to-head league? Talk to Mr. Earnhart about details surrounding this virtual grid-iron competition! **Meeting details**: Wednesdays in Mr. Earnhart's room (S-207)
8	**Intramurals (IM's)** Host: Mr. Adams	The sport or activity played will rotate every few weeks. The activity is as posted and can/will include: kickball, volleyball, wrestling, basketball, handball, soccer, track, and more! **Meeting details**: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in the gym/outdoors
9	**JR. BACC** Hosts: Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Griffin, Mr. Taylor	This club is open to all students and is dedicated to empowering African American students to embrace academic excellence while celebrating the rich culture and heritage of African Americans within the Kirkwood community. **Meeting details**: Select Tuesdays during S1 and S2 in the Nipher Cafeteria
10	**Math Lab-7** Host: Ms. Furjes	Math Lab is available for current 7th grade students who would like to prepare for Math 8 Placement testing (prep for 8th grade). It will be held after school on Wednesdays, and students are expected to work on IXL or Khan Academy with the presence of a certified math teacher who is able to help them, as needed. **Meeting details**: Wednesdays in Ms. Furjes' room (N-208)

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11	**Nipher Knight Steppers (Step Team)** Host: Mrs. Jones	Want to make some noise? Nipher Step Team is the place to be! In this percussive dance form, you'll use your body as an instrument, creating intricate rhythms with footsteps, hand claps, and spoken word. Join us to build school spirit and perform at various events throughout the year. **Meeting details**: Wednesdays in the Nipher Cafeteria
12	**Open Studio** Host: Dr. Holley	In Open Studio, students will be able to meet other students who have an interest in Art. During meetings, we will sketch, complete personal artworks, explore different art materials and processes, and engage in community projects and contests! **Meeting details**: Select Wednesdays in Dr. Holley's room (NE-184)
13	**Power Hour** Hosts: Mrs. Groves (Tuesdays) and Mr. Price (Thursdays)	Power Hour is a silent study hall in which students have the opportunity to work on homework assignments under teacher supervision. Please bring enough work to occupy a one-hour time allotment. **Meeting details**: Tuesdays & Thursdays in the TA Classroom/Testing Center (room W-208)
14	**Safe Spaces**	Safe Spaces is a non-curricular student-led club whose goal is to provide a safe space for all middle schoolers, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. It's a welcoming space that provides support for students who identify as LGBTQIA+, who have friends or relatives that identify as such, or who just

	Hosts: Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. Groves	care about LGBTQIA+ issues. Safe Spaces promotes character by working with all students and educators to encourage everyone to be treated with respect and compassion. Students are able to share their experiences and collaborate on inclusive education for all students. **Meeting details**: Select Wednesdays in the Nipher Library
15	**Travel Club** Host: Ms. Wilke	Travel Club is your passport to adventure! If you just love exploring the world, then this club is for you. We'll dive into the rich cultures of Italy and Greece, preview amazing historical sites like the Colosseum and Pompeii, and learn practical tips like how to navigate airports and stay safe from pickpockets. From delicious food to fascinating traditions, Travel Club is the place to get excited, get prepared, and get inspired. Join us as we explore the world, no suitcase required! **Meeting details**: Select Thursdays in Ms. Wilke's room (S-102)

Continue reading for our Semester 2 "closed clubs" with descriptions

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#	Nipher After-School Activity	Description of Closed Clubs (Closed group; designated for set groups of students. Dependent upon either: prerequisite experience, application process, additional costs, teacher selection, or attendance requirements)
1	**Basketball Team** Boys Coaches: Mr. Bodenschatz & Mr. Steele Girls Coach: Mrs. Walther & Mr. Adams	The Nipher Basketball Program is available for girls and boys, grades 6-8, who are committed to attending practices, while maintaining positive attendance and behavior. Try-outs will be held to form our teams, which will be determined by the coaches. Our teams compete in games with other schools, so attending weekly practice is an expectation. Go, Knights! **Meeting details**: Practices and game schedules TBA. Questions? Please contact Mr. Bodenschatz or Mrs. Walther directly.
2	**Fall/Spring Musical** Director: Ms. Oliphant Assistants: Mrs. Mueller, Dr. Holley, Mr. Kowalski, and Ms. Wilke	Do you have dreams to be in the spotlight? Or more supporting cast? Behind the stage? The Fall and Spring play/musical performances are designed for cast members and established from auditions to form cast and crew members for the 25-26 theater productions. **Meeting details**: Practices & rehearsal schedules TBA. Questions? Please contact Ms. Oliphant directly.
3	**Jazz Band**	All band instruments are welcome in the Nipher Jazz Band. This group is a good chance for students to learn a secondary "jazz" instrument. Joining the Nipher Jazz Band requires an audition and this information will be provided at the beginning of the year. 6th, 7th and 8th grade students are encouraged to audition.

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	Host: Dr. Bartz	The Jazz Band also includes drum set, string or electric bass, guitar and piano. Band students can try-out on any of these instruments as well. Students in this ensemble have the opportunity to play jazz, blues, funk, latin, and rock music; much different from a concert band experience. Chris Bartz leads the Nipher Jazz Band. **Meeting details**: Wednesdays in the band room (NE-282) Questions? Please contact Dr. Bartz Directly.
4	**Percussion Ensemble** Host: Mrs. Smith	Percussion Ensemble is available for current members of band class. Students in this club will learn to play unique styles of music, written specifically for percussion instruments. We will also perform at multiple concerts throughout the year! **Meeting details**: Thursdays in the band room (NE-282) Questions? Please contact Mrs. Alison Smith directly.
5	**Robotics Team** Host: Mr. Williams	This is a competitive Robotics Team. Robotics is a team-based competition in which students design, build, code, and drive robots to compete in a game designed by vex robotics. Students travel to several competitions and compete against students from around the state. **Meeting details**: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00-4:30 in Mr. William's room Questions? Please contact Mr. Williams directly.

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6	**Student Council (aka STUCO)** Host: Mrs. Cochran	Are you a natural leader? Do you want to help others through community service? In this club, you can help make a real difference at Nipher and beyond! **Meeting details**: Various dates, S1 and S2 in Mrs. Cochran's room (W-108) Questions? Please contact Mrs. Cochran directly.
7	**Weightlifting** Host: Coach Grana	The weightlifting club will work on the two Olympic lifts, snatch and clean and jerk. Learn helpful techniques alongside our very own, Coach Grana! **Meeting details**: Tuesdays and Thursdays in the weight room (S-009) Questions? Please contact Coach Grana directly.