

**Boyertown Area Middle School West
Competition, Community Service, and Application Clubs
2026-2027 School Year**

- These clubs are for the full year and are two days per cycle unless otherwise indicated.
 - Clubs that are four days per cycle can be for two days if a student is in band or orchestra.
 - Clubs are for students in grades 6-8 unless otherwise indicated.
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6th Grade Vocal Ensemble (By Audition Only) – All Year – Days 2 & 5 – Mrs. Rutt

- This select group of 6th graders will collaborate to learn fun and challenging music. Students will be selected for this ensemble based on an audition, and the songs learned in Vocal Ensemble will be performed by the group at the winter and spring concerts! **Grade 6 Only.**

Bear Ambassadors – All Year – Days 1 & 3 – Mrs. Hartzman & Mr. Kalejta

- Calling all future 8th grade students! Become a Bear Ambassador and help us create a supportive community! As a student leader, you'll collaborate with peers and staff to assist others through meaningful service. Ready to make an impact? See Mrs. Hartzman or Mr. Kalejta for an application. **Grade 8 Only. **Students may be a member of Bear Ambassadors OR Student Council, not both****

Math Counts – Trimesters 1 & 2 -- Days 1 & 3 – Mrs. Jakoby – Days 4 & 6 – Mrs. Parish

- Math Counts will be a challenging and fun club for advanced math students. We will complete a gold level project and prepare for a county competition at PSU-Berks. Some of what we will do includes on-line math games, working alone and with teams on challenge problems, competing with classmates in math games and going against classmates in a countdown round.

MSW News – All Year – Days 2 & 4 – Mrs. McDonough

- Members of this club will learn what it takes to be part of an on-air news crew while learning basic interview, research, and reporting skills. Daily responsibilities include script writing and content creation for students and staff. Time management, self-discipline, and independence are needed while working in this large group setting. All creative minds welcome. **Please Note:** All applicants will be required to submit a writing sample in order to be considered.

Select Crafts – Trimesters 1 & 2 – Days 4 & 6, Trimester 3 – Days 1 & 3 – Mrs. Harner

- Students will have the opportunity to use their creativity and problem-solving skills for making art. Most (but not all) art created will be in three-dimensional form, such as weaving, coiling, mosaics, batiks and more. Some artistic ability is required but creativity is key. Application required. **Grades 7 and 8 only**

Student Council – All Year – Days 2, 5, 6 – Mr. Hazel & Mrs. Shelly

- Student Council members represent the student body by helping to share students' ideas and interests. They also plan various activities and events for the school. Events include dances, socials, sporting events, food drives & more! Student Council is looking for individuals who want to enhance their leadership qualities and play an active role in their school. **Grades 7 and 8 only. **8th grade students may be a member of Bear Ambassadors OR Student Council, not both****

Tech Op: Stage Crew – All Year – Days 1 & 3, or 4 & 6 – Mr. Stallman

- As a crew member, you will be operating behind the scenes to help make school events go off without a hitch. Examples of events may include but are not limited to: MSW music concerts, some elementary school concerts, morning announcements, MSW musical, MSW one act plays. Members will be needed before school and after school for practices and shows. Dates and drop off and pick-up times for events will be provided in advance. Members must be disciplined and demonstrate the ability to keep up with schoolwork. After sign-ups are collected you will be contacted for an interview. **Grades 7 and 8 only.**

Technology Student Association (TSA) – Days 1 & 3, 4 & 6, or 2 & 5 – Mr. Dusko & Mr. Stallman

- The Technology Student Association (TSA) is an international student organization devoted exclusively to the needs of students interested in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Students are required to pay a membership fee to cover the costs of membership at the state and national level and to cover their costs of participating in the Regional Conference held at the beginning of February. Students prepare for such events as VEX Robotics, PA Robotics, Co2 Dragsters, Website Design, Video Game Design, Off the Grid House Design, Computer Aided Design, Medical Technology Issues, Prepared Speech, Dragster, and Invention and Innovations. You can look at the national website (www.tsaweb.org) and state website (www.patsa.org) for more information on the 56 events available. TSA is an academic competition club that competes at the regional and state level. After-school participation is a must. Work sessions will also be held after school 1 to 2 days a week from October to February from 2:55PM-5:00PM in rooms 63 & 64. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Stallman.

West Color Guard

- Students have the opportunity participate in the West Color Guard. The Color Guard is the group that marches with the band in parades and provides a visual element using flags.

West Music Crew – All Year – Days 1 & 3 – Mr. Bekesy

- Bring your instrument of choice, let's play some music together! We practice, learn from each other, and maybe write songs together. The last few years we have been able

to form a rock band to perform in front of the whole school! You do not have to be good at your instrument to join, just bring it in and slowly get better! Performing on stage is not mandatory.

West Video Production Team - All Year – Days 2 & 5 - Mr. Magro and Dr. Schrode-Fries **NOW**

DAYS 2 & 6

- Work with a small group to plan, shoot, and edit a video for the What's So Cool About Manufacturing Video Competition. Team members will learn about storyboarding, using a variety of camera angles and techniques, and video editing practices to create a promotional video for a local manufacturer. A trip to the manufacturer to shoot videos during school is required. Experience with making videos is a plus, but not necessary. Ideal candidates have a strong interest in the video making process and a willingness to work outside of club hours as video deadlines approach. **This club is open to 8th graders only and requires the completion of an application. Interested students should contact Mr. Magro (mmagro@boyertownasd.org) or Dr. Schrode-Fries (cschrodefries@boyertownasd.org) for more information.**

Youth and Government (YAG) – All Year – Days 1 & 4 – Mrs. Endy

- Do you like to debate current issues in the world? This may be the club for you! Youth and Government (YAG) is a social studies enrichment club partnered with the YMCA. Students learn and participate in the complexities of state government, including but not limited to:
 - Researching, developing, and writing a bill
 - Formal debate using Parliamentary Procedure
 - Public speaking
 - Collaborating with Lobbyist Organizations
 - Arguing a legal case

NOTE: Students attend several field trips on weekends per year, including a 4 day & 3-night trip to Harrisburg for Model Convention in April where students debate with others across the state in the Pennsylvania State Capitol. * There are program and trip fees involved in this club. **Grades 7 and 8 only.**

Yearbook – All Year – Days 1 & 4 – Mrs. Marshall

- Yearbook is a small club that works on the layout and production of the West yearbook, *Ursa Minor*. Students applying for this club should be self-motivated, hard-working, detail-oriented, and deadline-oriented. Yearbook staff members will be taking and uploading pictures and designing and editing assigned pages (including checking names and spelling). Students must be able to stay after school from time to time to take pictures at sporting events and practices. Mandatory after-schoolwork sessions will also be held from time to time to ensure that we meet our deadlines (34 pages are due in January; 34 pages are due in March; 4 pages are due in April). Students in yearbook cannot be shared with another club on days 1 & 4.

**Boyertown Area Middle School West
Special Interest Clubs
2026-2027 School Year**

- These clubs are trimester in length (1/3 of the school year) unless otherwise indicated.
 - These clubs do not require an application.
 - Clubs are for students in grades 6-8 unless otherwise indicated.
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Board Games – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 1 – Ms. Roth, Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 3 – Mrs. Parish

- Students will learn the rules of various board and card games such as Sorry, Battleship, Uno, Life, Yahtzee, etc. and then have time to interact while playing the games in groups to encourage strategy, good sportsmanship, friendly competition, camaraderie and making new friends.

Chess & Checkers Club – Trimester 3 – Day 4 or 6 – Mrs. Parish

- This club is for students who enjoy the strategy involved in checkers and chess.

Coloring Club – Trimesters 1 & 3 – Day 5 – Mrs. Mauser

- Students will relax, reflect, and refocus while coloring intricate pages. Students will be able to color silently or with light chit-chat while soft music plays in the background. A variety of page choices will allow students to express themselves with minimal skill needed.

Cross Country Club – Trimester 1 – Days 4 & 6 – Mrs. Achenbach, Mrs. Miller, and Mrs. Renninger

- Engage your love for running with our exploratory Cross-Country Club. Students will enhance their running stamina during period 10.

Drama Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Days 1 & 3 – Mrs. Painter

- Do you have an interest in theater? Are you looking for a place to be creative and expressive? Do you want to learn what goes into putting on a full-length production here at Middle School West? If so, drama club might be the right fit for you! In this club, you will learn the basics of theater and acting including: community building, relaxation and breathing techniques, pantomime, movement, character development, script reading, memorization, staging, directing, and improvisation. Even if you are not sure if you want to be in the spotlight, this is a great opportunity to see what it takes to work both on and off the stage.

Elementary Friends – Trimester 2 – Days 4 & 6 – Mrs. Achenbach

- If you love working with children, babysitting, and/or want to learn more about these activities, this is the club for you! We will share tips, ideas, and strategies, as well as learn the fundamentals of how to become a good caretaker of younger children. We will also try out what we learn when we visit the classes at BES.

Friendship Bracelet Making Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Day 2 – Mrs. Harner

- Come de-stress and learn how to use knotting (macrame) and weaving techniques to make a variety of friendship bracelets. You can learn different patterns, such as chevron, flipflop, Chinese staircase, candy cane square knots, and many more.

Garden Club – Trimester 3 – Day 2 – Mrs. Creed

- In this club, students will learn about gardening and gain hands-on experience with starting plants and flowers from seeds and transplanting them to the school courtyards when the weather gets warm. Students will gain environmental awareness and learn about how a pollinator garden supports plants that supply nectar and pollen to a wide range of pollinators, including insects such as bees and butterflies and certain birds and animals. (Limit 15)

Lego Club – Trimester 3 – Days 4 & 6 – Mrs. Achenbach

- Students will build on creativity problem-solving, critical thinking skills and cooperation by using Legos to build solutions to various engineering design challenges. This club encourages innovative thinking and collaboration in a safe, enriching environment to create and play. Join the Lego club to meet new friends and to have fun building together.

Muggles & Magicians – Trimester 2 – Day 1 – Mrs. McDonough

- Are you a Harry Potter enthusiast? Maybe just curious what all the hype is about? Either way, this club is for you! Students can expect to participate in some classic Hogwarts shenanigans, such as brewing potions, navigating secret maps, studying mythological creatures, and concocting butterbeer recipes. In Muggles & Magicians, we solemnly swear that we are up to no good!

No Place for Hate Club – Trimester 1– Day 1 – School Counselors T2 This year

- Help plan a minimum of 3 school wide NPFH activities as well as create posters and plan other events throughout the year that promote respect and acceptance and help our West community learn more about one another. (Limit 20)

Piano Club – Trimesters 2 & 3 – Day 3 – Mrs. Creed

- This is a course designed for students who wish to learn how to play the piano and have little to no experience already. Students will use keyboard pianos in the music room for one-on-one lessons in a small group setting. Students with some knowledge of piano or skills are still welcome to join and will be given time to work independently on more advanced music. Class size is limited to the number of available pianos.

Recycling Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Days 1 or 4 – Mrs. Palopoli & Mrs. Grabner

- Recycling paper benefits us in many ways: saves energy, resources, & water; less trees cut down; improved air & water quality; & less waste in landfills. Our recycling club will encourage teachers and students to separate all recyclable paper and cardboard and utilize the recycling bins. Once a cycle, we will go to each classroom, collect the paper recycling, and place it in the recycling bins in the parking lot. (Maximum 15 students)

Silent Reading Club – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Days 1 & 4 – Mr. McAuliffe

- Shh! Do you wish you had a period during the day where you could choose to read a book of your choice without noise or interruption? Join the Silent Reading Club. In this club, students will be expected to remain silent and respectful of other club members. Can't stay quiet – this may not be the club for you. Want to read independently without interruptions? This club is for you! Just remember, if you sign up for this club, the expectation will be no talking and lots of reading.

Stock Market Club – Trimester 1 – Days 4 & 6 – Mr. Bekesy

- Learn about how the stock market works! We will set up virtual portfolios where you will learn how to buy, sell, and track stocks (all done with virtual money). We will discuss different strategies and learn about what it takes to be successful in the market.

Teen Survival – Trimester 1 – Day 1 – Mrs. McDonough

- Adulthood is hard, especially if you are not ready. Get ready to level up your skills and be more in control of your life. This club will focus on various things you should know before entering the “real world.” We will run through topics and scenarios about how to live a more proactive lifestyle: budgeting and balancing money, applying for a job, navigating social media, basic traveling, and stress management to name a few.

Walking Club – Trimesters 1 & 3 – Day 3 – Mrs. Shelly & Mrs. Witman**Trimester 1 – Day 5 – Mrs. Palopoli & Mrs. Roth**

- Looking to get more exercise & get some fresh air? Join our MSW walking club! This club is a low key, fun, social, walking club aimed at getting students outside, enjoying fresh air and adding in some exercise! Each session, we plan to go outside and walk around our school, track or Boyertown Park. If you join this club, you will be expected to walk!

Weightlifting & Fitness Club – Trimesters 2 & 3 – Days 2 & 6 – Mr. Bekesy & Mr. Wawrzonek

- Join us in the weightroom to build strength and fitness! We will set up several different circuit style workouts, and we will rotate through the routine. You don't need any prior workout experience. Anyone is welcome! (Limit 20)

Zesty Westy Chefs – Trimesters 1, 2, 3 – Days 3 or 5 – Mrs. Grabner

- The Zesty Westy Chefs will learn to read and follow recipes to create snacks and dip items that they can re-create at home. Food and kitchen safety will be discussed as we cook in the kitchen, and we will also talk about hospitality when delivering samples to staff members. Students must come to club ready to actively participate – preparing food, washing/drying dishes, and cleaning. Some favorites that we like to make include wontons, chocolate covered pretzels, fried ravioli, and big mac bites. WARNING: Students with any sort of food allergies such as peanuts, tree nuts, milk, eggs, etc., or dietary restrictions would NOT benefit from this club. (Grade 8 Only – Limit 10 Per Session)