

BUFFETT

Magnet  **Middle School**

*Where academic excellence is the standard
& communication is an art*

Club Handbook

2009-2010

Alice Buffett Magnet Middle School
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Buffett Magnet Middle School

Clubs and Co-Curricular Activity Handbook

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How can being in a school activity benefit me? What are the personal benefits?

CHECK IT OUT!

Some good reasons for me to get involved in school activities are...

- ⇒ To build a sense of pride for my school.
- ⇒ To build friendships with students I have things in common with.
- ⇒ To develop my appreciation for other people.
- ⇒ To develop my cooperation skills.
- ⇒ To develop my leadership skills.
- ⇒ To boost my self-confidence.
- ⇒ To increase my organization skills.
- ⇒ To increase my sense of responsibility and independence.
- ⇒ To increase my chances of employment when applying for a job.
- ⇒ To earn recognition in organizations outside of school (such as Scouts).
- ⇒ To increase my chances of being accepted into an honor society or college.
- ⇒ To increase my chances of being awarded scholarship money.
- ⇒ To have fun!

Trying new hobbies and interests can also help me...

- ⇒ To become more balanced as a human being.
- ⇒ To learn more about career or job opportunities in the future.

Aerobic Intramurals

(All Grades)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Edgar

Description:

Students will be involved in activities that will work their muscles and get their heart pumping. Activities include aerobic dance, step aerobics, TaeBo, Fitt balls, use of stretch bands, jumping rope, exercise bikes, walking and some active games in the gym.

Requirements for Participation:

Willingness to stay active, have fun and cooperate with others!

Meeting Information:

The Aerobic Intramural will begin in mid March. Sign-up information will be announced during the daily bulletin. Specific meeting dates will be listed on the sign-up form, usually 2-3 times a week. Aerobic sessions are held from 2:50-3:35 p.m. in the Aerobic Room.



BOBCASTERS (Broadcasting Club)

(Grade 5 - 6)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Chytka

Description:

This club is open to select 5th and 6th grade students with teacher and family approval who are interested in learning more about the Buffett television broadcasting process. Students will receive basic camera skills and learn to create video coverage for the BBTV news. Students will also serve as technical representatives on their teams.

Requirements for Participation:

In addition to completing a broadcasting equipment contract, all students must have a signed parent/guardian application. Students will be selected based upon their application for the club.

Meeting Information:

The club will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in Room C204 from 2:45-3:30 p.m. from October-May to sign up for event coverage throughout the month. (Additional training meetings may be required at the beginning of the school year).

Bobcat Buddy – Summer Pen Pals

(Grades 5 – 6)

Coach or Sponsor:

Ms. Comstock

Description:

During the summer, Bobcat Buddies are matched up with new magnet lottery students from various parts of the city. Buddies write, call, and send cards over the summer to get acquainted and ease new students' concerns about changing schools. Students sign up for club memberships at the beginning of May and must be committed to following through over the summer months and following school year. Cards and letters are mailed from home in June and July. Bobcat Buddies meet monthly with their new magnet students during Bobcat Block in September, October, November, and December.

Requirements for Participation:

Buddies should be eager to make new friends and enjoy communicating with new magnet students from all over the Omaha area. New students depend upon their Bobcat Buddy for support and encouragement throughout the summer and during their first semester of school.

Meeting Information:

This group will meet the last Friday of every month in the Library during Bobcat Block.

Bobcat Robots

(Grade 8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mr. Prauner

Description:

Participants will be building robots in a small group. They will compete in tournaments, plus a State tournament for middle schools. One team may advance further in competition depending on qualifying.

Requirements for Participation:

There will be six students chosen from 8th grade, three from 7th grade, and one from 6th grade. There will also be three alternates chosen. Students will be required to attend 85% of the meetings. Due to seasonal conflicts, students who are in basketball and swimming will not be able to participate in Bobcat Robots. Selection will be based on teacher collaboration and an essay.

Meeting Information:

This club will meet Tuesday and Thursday from 2:45-4:30 p.m. The first meeting will be in October and will run through February in Room A014.

Book Blasters

(Grades 7 - 8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Tunning

Description:

Participants read from a selection of 18 books. A competition, sponsored by the Gifted and Talented office, will take place in March. Buffett can take up to two teams, four students per team.

Requirements for Participation:

Like to read! A test over the books will be given in February. Top scorers will participate in the competition.

Meeting Information:

This club will meet on varying days and times, based on members' schedules.



Buffett Bravo

(Grades 7 – 8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Ms. Matulka

Description:

Buffett Bravo is a 7th and 8th grade auditioned ensemble. Students will perform a variety of music repertoire. This swing choir will perform throughout the school year.

Requirements for Participation:

Any student in grades 7 or 8 is eligible to audition for Buffett Bravo. Students are selected not only by the quality of their singing but also by their character and citizenship at Buffett. A uniform will be required of the performer.

Meeting Information:

This group will practice weekly from September through May 2:45-3:30 p.m.

Buffett in the Groove

(Girls in Grades 5 – 6)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Buller-Kirke

Description:

Buffett in the Groove is a 5th and 6th grade Girls Swing Choir. This audition-only choir will prepare music for upcoming performances.

Requirements for Participation:

Students must audition at the beginning of the year as prescribed by sponsor. A uniform of black pants, collared shirt (purchased by singer) and dress shoes will be required of each performer.

Meeting Information:

Practices will take place every week on Tuesdays from September through May. Singers will meet on the Buffett stage from 2:45-3:30 p.m.



Buffett ROCK Club (Recorder Orff Class of Knowledge)

(Grades 5 – 6)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Buller-Kirke

Description:

The Buffett ROCK Club is a 5th and 6th grade recorder/orff musical group. This club will investigate the recorder wind instrument and Orff percussion instruments. Students will perform during at least one 5th and 6th grade concert during the school year.

Requirements for Participation:

Any 5th or 6th grade student who is interested in learning and improving skills with the recorder and Orff percussion instruments. Students will be required to purchase a recorder (approximately \$5 each).

Meeting Information:

Rehearsals will take place every week on Friday from September-May. Students will meet on the Buffett stage from 2:45-3:30 p.m.

Buffett Spirit Singers

(Grades 5 – 6)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Buller-Kirke

Description:

The Buffett Spirit Singers is a 5th & 6th grade Swing Choir. This audition-only choir will prepare music for upcoming performances.

Requirements for Participation:

Students must audition at the beginning of the year as prescribed by sponsor. A uniform will be required of each performer.

Meeting Information:

Practices will take place every week on Thursday from September through May. Singers will meet on the Buffett stage from 2:45 to 3:30 p.m.



Chess Club

(All Grades)

Sponsor:

Mr. Pentland

Description:

Students can learn to play and enjoy competitive games. Chess boards and instruction is provided. USCF Tournaments are also available through the Omaha Chess Club.

Requirements:

Students who are interested in learning the game, improving their play, and even perhaps competing in local tournaments!

Meeting Information:

Begins the last week of September or first week of October and will run through the third week in May. Meeting days will be Tuesdays/Thursdays (either/both) in Cottage 6 from 2:45-3:30 p.m.

Drama Club

Coach or Sponsor:

Ms. Neve and Miss Rosenberg

1st Semester ImprovFest

(All Grades)

Description:

Drama Club first semester will be focused on introducing students to drama techniques such as: improvisation, mime, and stage directions. Club concludes with ImprovFest performance in mid-November. Cast size limited to 50 students.

Requirements for Participation:

Audition and commitment to rehearsal and performance schedule through student and parent signature form.

Meeting Information:

This club will meet from September through November. Participants will rehearse weekly on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 2:45-4:35 p.m. in Room A004.

2nd Semester Spring Play

(All Grades)

Description:

Drama Club second semester will be a musical or play performance that requires people for acting, set building, props and costumes. Cast size limited to 20-35 students.

Requirements for Participation:

Audition and commitment to rehearsal and performance schedule through student and parent signature form.

Meeting Information:

This club will meet from January through March. Participants will rehearse weekly on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 2:45-4:35 p.m. in Room A004. Performance date will be mid-March.

Junior Thespian Society

(Grades 6 – 8)

Description:

Opportunities to attend festivals and special events.

Requirements for Participation:

Junior Thespian Society is for students who have earned 10 Thespian Points by participation in shows as a cast or crew member and attending local theater productions.

Meeting Information:

This club will meet once a month during Bobcat Block.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)

(All Grades)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Starkey, Mrs. Garton, Ms. Lensch

Description:

Being a part of an FCA huddle is a great way to meet with friends and enjoy common interests in an encouraging setting. Activities from the “Huddle Kit” include discussions from “God’s Game Plan” as well as DVDs and music. Visit www.fca.org for more information on this national club.

Requirements for Participation:

A willingness to be a positive “team player” who includes others. You do not have to be involved in a sport to participate, though athletes are strongly encouraged to join.

Meeting Information:

FCA will meet every other Tuesday after school beginning September 1. We will meet in Room C210.



Fusion String Orchestra

(Grades 5-8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mr. Miller

Description:

From Bach to rock – the Fusion String Orchestra melds your favorite classical music to your favorite rock n’roll music. The orchestra will study and practice today’s top hits as well as put a twist on some of the classics. Students will also have the opportunity to play on electric violins, violas, cellos and basses. The students will perform two concerts.

Requirements for Participation:

Students are required to be enrolled in Orchestra/String class.

Meeting Information:

Fusion will meet on Tuesdays from 2:45-3:35 p.m. in the orchestra room.

Garden/Walking Trail

(All Grades)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Coyne, Mrs. Warren

Description:

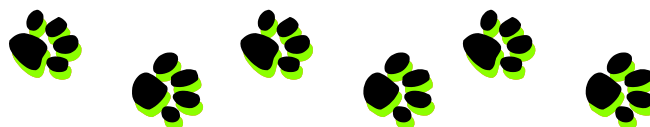
The Garden/Walking Trail Club is for any 5th-8th grade student who enjoys working outside. The club meets after school in the spring and fall to keep the reading garden and walking trail free of weeds and looking well-kept.

Requirements for Participation:

All participants must fill out a permission form that indicates transportation information, parental consent, and emergency contract information.

Meeting Information:

To be announced.



Golf Club

(All Grades)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mr. Shafer

Description:

The Golf Club will give students of all ages (5th – 8th) and abilities the opportunity to participate in group lessons conducted by Mr. Shafer. The sessions will focus on the basics of the golf grip, stance, and swing. Proper etiquette, scoring, and rules will also be addressed.

Requirements for Participation:

Transportation to Stone Creek is not provided. A cost of \$3 for range balls. Golf Clubs.

Meeting Information:

The club will meet every Thursday starting in April (weather permitting) and continue through the end of the school year. The sessions will begin at 3:15 p.m. at Stone Creek Driving Range located at 6220 N. 160th Ave.

History Day Club (HDC)

(Grades 6-8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Chytka

Description:

History Day Club (HDC) is open to select 6th-8th grade students with the approval of their Social Studies' teacher and family. Students will develop extensive research and writing skills, select a topic in accordance with the National History Day theme, and create one of the following projects: documentary, research paper, exhibit, performance, or website. While this club requires a great deal of dedication, the rewards are numerous

Requirements for Participation:

Social Studies teacher's approval is required, as well as parent/guardian approval.

Meeting Information:

The club will meet on the last Friday of each month from 2:45-3:30 pm in Room C204 from September through the March district competition date. (Additional meetings may be required as the competition date approaches).



Jazz Club

(All Grades)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Stratton and Ms. Goecker

Description:

Participating students will get the chance to play a different style of music than in concert band. Swing, Latin, Bossa Nova, and Rock are some examples of the style of music the members of jazz band will experience. Students will have the opportunity to play in a smaller ensemble and be more responsible for their parts.

Requirements for Participation:

All students wishing to participate must audition to become a member of the group. Students in 5th and 6th grade must receive permission from a club sponsor to audition.

Meeting Information:

Jazz Band will meet every Thursday from 2:40-3:30 p.m. in the Band Room. Additional rehearsals may be called before school if necessary.

Kids Helping Kids Volunteer Club

(All Grades)

Coach or Sponsor:

Ms. Comstock, Mrs. Rowe, and Special Education Staff

Description:

KHK is a “Circle of Friends” organization in partnership with our special needs students at Buffett. Volunteers are paired up with students in Mrs. Rowe’s ACP (alternative curriculum program) classroom. Volunteers act as “Breakfast Buddies” from 7:10-7:30, “Lunch Buddies” during 5th grade lunch, “PE Buddies” during gym time, “Room Helpers for the Week” during Bobcat Block, or “Homeroom Buddies” that may read or play games from 2:20-2:40. Volunteers receive sensitivity training, education of physical and mental disabilities, as well as communication skills training. Participation in quarterly after school activities from 2:40-3:40 may also be included (walks to Hillsborough Park, field trips to the Humane Society, etc).

Requirements for Participation:

Students should have patience and a sincere interest in working with people with special needs. An application and essay are required for membership. The club will be limited to 75 students this year.

Meeting Information:

This group will meet the fourth Wednesday of the month from 2:40-3:40 in the Library.



Knitting Club

(Grades 7 - 8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Westbrook

Description:

Students will learn the basic knitting skills such as casting on, knitting and binding off. Students will have the opportunity to use those skills to create a scarf or belt.

Requirements for Participation:

\$5 donation to supplement materials.
7th and 8th grade students interested in learning to knit.

Meeting Information:

Knitting Club will meet every Wednesday in Room B120 starting September 23, 2009 from 2:50-3:30 p.m. Please see Mrs. Westbrook to sign up.

Math Club

(Grades 7 - 8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Larson, Mrs. Luschen, Ms. Olsen and Ms. Vavra

Description:

The purpose of the math club is to prepare students for High School and Middle School math competitions. Only students who participate in the math club will be able to compete in competitions.

Requirements for Participation:

Students should be in Algebra or Geometry at the 8th grade level; Pre-algebra or Algebra at the 7th grade level.

Meeting Information:

This club will meet the 1st Tuesday of each month. The first meeting will be September 1st from 2:50-3:40 p.m. in Room B127. The last club date will be April 6.



National Junior Honor Society

(Grades 7 – 8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Ms. Foster, Mrs. Severin, Ms. Vavra

Description:

National Junior Honor Society is open to 7th and 8th grade students with a 3.75 Cumulative grade point average or higher. Acceptance is based on scholarship, leadership, service and character. Induction of new members will take place in the spring of the year.

Requirements for Participation:

3.75 (or higher) cumulative GPA.

Meeting Information:

NJHS will meet on the 1st Friday of each month. This group will meet during Bobcat Block in the Cafeteria, unless more time is necessary to prepare for special events (ie: fundraisers, inductions).

No Place For Hate

(Grades 7-8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Ms. McAlevy, Mrs. Tunning

Description:

This club is designed for any 7th or 8th grader interested in helping to promote acceptance of diversity and differences and to curb bullying and disrespectful practices within our Buffett community. No Place for Hate program, sponsored through the Anti-Defamation League, empowers school communities to promote respect for individual and group differences while challenging prejudice and bigotry. Members will meet monthly (after school, day to be decided by a vote from the majority of our members) to talk about problems they have witnessed or heard about. Information will be shared about different kinds of bullying, and solutions will be generated by the group to help call awareness to the problem, and put an end to it.

Requirements for Participation:

Must be 7th or 8th grade student.

Meeting Information:

We will meet monthly, beginning in September.

Pen and Ink

(Grades 5-6)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Holohan and Mrs. Ingram

Description:

Students have time to write and share their writing pieces during club meetings. Each student will create their own Student Treasure book. Students will also submit work for the literary magazine, Write On. Students will have an opportunity throughout the year to enter various writing contests. Pen and Ink members will be invited to participate in an end of the year celebration for the literary magazine.

Requirements for Participation:

Students should have an interest in writing and working on their own Student Treasure book. Students must also have an interest in submitting work for the literary magazine, Write On.

Meeting Information:

This club will begin in September. Sign-up information and specific meeting dates will be announced during the daily bulletin and Wednesday folders. 5th/6th grade will meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Meetings will be held from 2:45-3:35 in Mrs. Holohan's room, C230.

Pen and Ink

(Grades 7-8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Ms. David

Description:

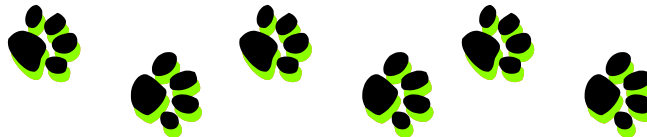
Students have time to write and share their writing pieces during club meetings. Students will have an opportunity throughout the year to enter various writing contests. The club also organizes and compiles submissions for the literary magazine, Write On. Students will be invited to participate in an end of the year celebration for the literary magazine.

Requirements for Participation:

Students should have an interest in writing and working on the literary magazine, Write On.

Meeting Information:

This club will begin in September. Sign-up information and specific meeting dates will be announced during the daily bulletin and Wednesday folders. Club will meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Meetings will be held from 2:45-3:30 p.m. in Ms. David's Room, B130.



Percussion Club

(Grades 5-6)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Stratton

Description:

Participating students will get a chance to work on their skills as percussionists and play music that is different than the music they play in class. Students will have the opportunity to explore new instruments and utilize a variety of new techniques while learning and performing percussion ensemble music.

Requirements for Participation:

Students must be 5th or 6th grade percussionists enrolled in band.

Meeting Information:

5/6 Percussion Club will meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month, beginning in March, Room A052, 2:45-3:30 p.m.

Percussion Club

(Grades 7-8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Stratton

Description:

Participating students will get a chance to work on their skills as percussionists and play music that is different than the music they play in class. Students will have the opportunity to explore new instruments and utilize a variety of new techniques while learning and performing percussion ensemble music.

Requirements for Participation:

Students must be 7th or 8th grade percussionists enrolled in band.

Meeting Information:

7/8 Percussion Club will meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month, beginning in March, Room A052, 2:45-3:30 p.m.



Quiz Bowl/Science Bowl/Knowledge Masters

(Grades 7 - 8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Durfee

Description:

Participants compete as a team in academic competitions consisting of “Toss-up” individual questions and “Bonus” team questions utilizing a buzzer system.

Requirements for Participation:

Selection of students based on tryouts and teacher recommendations. Student must be dedicated to studying varying subject matter after school hours and regularly attending practices.

Meeting Information:

This club will meet on varying days and times, based on members’ schedules.

Read to Succeed

(Grades 5 - 6)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. McKain and Mrs. Nieland

Description:

Read to Succeed is an OPS reading contest sponsored by the Office of Gifted and Talented. Students read from a pre-selected list of twenty books and work together as a team of four to answer a variety of questions about the books. There will be a school level competition to determine the four team members that will compete at the district level against schools from across OPS.

Requirements for Participation:

Students are responsible for reading all of the twenty books, creating a summary card and quiz questions for each book, and attending the monthly meetings.

Meeting Information:

Meeting dates and times will be announced at a later date.



Sketching Club

(Grade 5A)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mr. Moore

Description:

5A Sketching Club is an after school activity for budding artists interested in developing skills and learning drawing techniques to help them become better artists.

Requirements for Participation:

A 5A student with a "C" average or above. A love of drawing and sketching.

Meeting Information:

We will meet on Thursdays after school from 2:45-3:30 in Room C229. In October Mr. Moore will send out permission sheets with a starting date.

South Sings Festival

(Grade 7)

Coach or Sponsor:

Ms. Matulka

Description:

South Sings Festival is an opportunity provided by South High School for members of the 7th grade chorus. It is an opportunity for the selected students to learn new music and sing in an Honors' chorus with a variety of middle school and high school students.

Requirements for Participation:

Students will be recommended by Ms. Matulka.

Meeting Information:

This group will meet on varying days a few weeks before the festival to be determined by Ms. Matulka in Cottage 11 from 2:40-3:30 p.m.



Speech Club-Competitive

(Grades 6 – 8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Saniuk

Description:

Competitive Speech Club offers students the opportunity to explore speaking skills, to present speeches, and to learn from competition. Students will learn to develop and deliver extemporaneous, impromptu and original oratory speeches.

Requirements for Participation:

Students are responsible for any preparatory work that is not completed during the club meeting. Students will need to attend one or two competitions after school.

Meeting Information:

This group will meet monthly. Meeting dates and times will be announced at a later date. The group may meet more than monthly when preparing for a competition.

Story Telling

(Grade 8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Ms. Foster

Description:

After learning the history of storytelling and basic storytelling techniques, participants will be instructed on how to choose and learn 2-3 African folktales. They will perfect their storytelling skills with practice utilizing specific movements and some props.

Participants will perform their stories at various times and places during the month of February - African American History Month.

Requirements:

Students interested in storytelling and performing in front of others

Meeting Information:

This club begins in November. After stories are chosen, meeting times for practice are flexible.

Student Ambassadors

(Grades 5 & 7 only)

Coach or Sponsor:

Ms. Comstock

Description:

5th and 7th grade Student Ambassadors are a select group of outgoing students who are trained to help with special projects and outreach programs. Student Ambassadors assist Buffett counselors as they present registration information to area elementary school students. Student Ambassadors use their public speaking skills to deliver presentations regarding moving up to middle school. (The presentations are written by Ms. Comstock). Student Ambassadors provide tours on elementary “Sneak-A-Peek” field trips and at May’s “Welcome to Middle School Night”. They are also greeters or locker helpers at 5th or 7th Grade Fall Orientation Nights. Students are trained in all activities during meetings. Some memorization is required.

Requirements for Participation:

Student Ambassadors are selected by an application and audition process in January. Student Ambassadors responsibilities occur during second semester.

Meeting Information:

Student Ambassadors meet in the Community Room every Monday during Bobcat Block beginning in February.

Student Council

(Grades 5-6 and 7-8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Ms. Drees, Mrs. Nieland

Description:

Leadership will be the core of Student Council. Activities will be focused on building students' self-image, dealing with peer pressure, goal setting, and getting along with others as we build friendships and relationships. Projects and activities will include student dances, movie and skate nights, teacher appreciation activities, support of local charities, environmental causes, concession stand, Spirit Wednesdays, pep rallies and advisory board.

Requirements for Participation:

Three representatives from each team are selected. They must submit an application in early September, written paper, teacher signatures, and parent signature. Based on these criteria, students will be chosen by teachers and club sponsors.

Meeting Information:

Student Council will meet each Friday from 2:30-3:35 p.m. The first meeting will begin in September and run through May. Meetings will be held in the Library.



Tri-M Music Honor Society

(Grades 6-8)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Stratton

Description:

Tri-M is the international honor society recognizing secondary music students for their musical ability, academic excellence, school involvement, and community service. It is designed to recognize students for their academic and musical achievements, reward them for their accomplishments and service activities, and to inspire other students to excel at music and leadership.

Requirements for Participation:

Students must have been in a school music ensemble or class for at least one semester during the current school year. Students must also maintain a B average grade in music, as well as at least a C average grade in their other classes during the last semester. Interested students must complete an application form, which will ask about leadership experiences in the school or community and service experiences in the school or community. We are looking for students who demonstrate respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring and citizenship.

Meeting Information:

This club will meet once a month, beginning after the selection process in September and October. Day TBA.



World Languages Club

(Grades 6 – 7)

Coach or Sponsor:

Mrs. Lundeen and Ms. Drees

Description:

Participating in the World Languages Club will help you learn the basics about French and Spanish. Enjoy activities related to French and Spanish cultures – music, language and art.

Requirements for Participation:

Parent/guardian signed form.

Meeting Information:

This club will meet the 4th Wednesday of each month beginning in January from 2:50-3:40 p.m. in Room B119. The last club date will be in April.

***Secondary school students may form noncurriculum related student groups. The fact that such clubs are permitted to conduct meetings on District premises and may be monitored by school officials shall not constitute school sponsorship or District endorsement of the purposes of such clubs or the content of their meetings.**