

BETHEL PARK HIGH SCHOOL

CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

A co-curricular activities program can be a vital part of a student's learning experience. We provide many and varied programs designed to contribute to the enjoyment of your life at Bethel Park High School as well as provide a meaningful supplement to your growth and development. Available programs cover a wide spectrum of interests with many having a direct connection to the academic curriculum. We hope you will realize the benefits that can be derived from the various activities and choose to become a part of our co-curricular program.

The following list is intended to give you an idea of just what activities are available to you. Additional information on these activities is often given in the morning announcements, in the daily bulletins and on bulletin boards. In addition, questions can always be answered in the Activities Center in Building Four. Read through the list. Pick something that interests you. Give it a try. You can always change your mind.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Your time at Bethel Park High School can be the best four years of your life. It is up to **you** to make the decision and take the first step. Each year there is a wide array of co-curricular activities for each Bethel Park student. The Student Government Association has assembled this booklet to introduce these opportunities to you. We strongly encourage you to give at least one of them a try. Co-curricular activities add excitement and adventure, new friends and fun times, grand experiences and life lessons to your high school career. And there are many to choose from, covering almost any interest. We challenge you to learn more about these activities, go to a meeting, talk to a friend, teacher, or advisor, or simply stop by the Activities Center and we would be happy to assist you in choosing the right co-curricular activity. We hope you will read this booklet and strongly consider taking the first step in making your high school years the best they can be. Good Luck!

BPHS Student Government

ATHLETICS

FOR INFORMATION ON THESE SPORTS CONTACT THE ATHLETIC OFFICE.

Athletic Director: Dan Sloan - 412 854-8547

sloan.daniel@bphawks.org

The interscholastic sports program consists of twenty eight (28) varsity teams, nineteen (19) junior varsity teams, nine (9) junior high teams and eight (8) middle school programs. All of these groups compete in the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA). The local district of the PIAA that our school competes in is District 7, commonly known as the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League or (WPIAL).

Baseball: This spring sport is offered for boys and is comprised of Freshman, Junior Varsity and Varsity teams.

Basketball: This winter sport is offered to 7th/8th grade girls and boys, Freshman girls and boys, Junior Varsity boys and girls, and Varsity boys and girls.

Cheerleading: This sport has teams at the 8th grade level, 9th grade level as well as the Junior Varsity and Varsity levels.

Cross Country: This fall sport is offered to both boys and girls at the 7th/8th grade level and at the Varsity level.

Diving: This winter sport is offered to boys and girls at the Varsity level.

Football: This fall sport, which begins approximately two weeks prior to the start of the school year, is offered at the 7th/8th/9th grade levels, as well as Junior Varsity and Varsity levels.

Golf: This fall season sport is offered to boys and girls at the Junior Varsity and Varsity level.

Lacrosse: This spring sport is offered through the school for boys and girls in grades 9-12 and consists of Junior Varsity and Varsity teams for both boys and girls.

Rifle: In the winter, rifle is offered at the Junior Varsity and Varsity level for both boys and girls.

Softball: This spring sport is available for girls and is offered to 7th/8th graders as well as the Junior Varsity and Varsity levels.

Soccer: In the fall, soccer is offered to girls at the 7th/8th, Junior Varsity and Varsity levels. Soccer is offered to boys at the Jr. High Level (7-9), Junior Varsity and Varsity levels.

Swimming: For students at the middle school level, swimming is offered in the fall to both 7th/8th grade boys and girls. Swimming is offered in the winter to both boys and girls at the Varsity level.

Tennis: Tennis is a fall sport for the girls at the Junior Varsity and Varsity levels.

This sport is a spring sport for the boys at the Junior Varsity and Varsity levels.

Track: In the winter, an indoor track program is offered to both boys and girls at the Varsity level. In the spring, both boys and girls are offered outdoor track at the Middle School and Varsity levels.

Volleyball: The fall is the girls' season for competition at the Middle School, Junior Varsity, and Varsity levels. The Freshman girls' volleyball team is hosted during the winter/spring season. The spring season is when boys' volleyball is offered to students at the Middle School, Junior Varsity and Varsity levels.

Wrestling: Wrestling is offered as a winter sport and includes teams at the Jr. High level as well as at the Varsity level.

Club Sports:

Ice Hockey (late fall to early spring)

In-Line Roller Hockey (winter)

Boys' Fencing (all year)

Girls' Fencing (all year)

Crew (fall & spring)

Girls' Slow Pitch Softball (fall)

ART CLUB

The Art Club is primarily a service organization which takes care of the artistic needs of the high school and the surrounding community. There are ample opportunities for advanced projects, art appreciation, and fellowship not always available to regular art classes. All Art Club students take part in the planning, organizing, and participation in the yearly school art show known as Artsfest . Art Club is open to any student that loves to create. Students may join at any time.

Sponsor Kent Wallisch
wallisch.kent@bphawks.org

THE BEACON YEARBOOK

The Beacon Yearbook club is responsible for creating, advertising and selling the Beacon Yearbook. Students work very hard taking photographs, organizing photographs, and editing photographs. Students also spend countless hours creating the graphic layout of the cover and page designs. Club members are also responsible for the journalism aspects of all things covered in the yearbook. Finally, the club advertises, sells and distributes the Beacon at the end of the year.

Sponsor John Allemang
allemang.john@bphawks.org
beacon@bphawks.org

BEST BUDDIES

The Best Buddies Club is a student-lead friendship club that creates opportunities for one-on-one friendships and leadership development for students with and without disabilities. The Best Buddies mission is to help create an inclusive school climate for students and a community culture of acceptance. Best Buddies is all about inclusion and we welcome everyone to join our club.

Sponsor Julie Hernandez
hernandez.juliea@bphawks.org

BETHETTES

The Bethettes are an important component of the Marching Band. They perform challenging and creative dance and drill routines while cheering on the Band and Bethel Park sports teams. The Bethettes also entertain the community in parades and special presentations at the high school. Tryouts are held in the spring for students in grades 9, 10, and 11.

Sponsor Chad Thompson - 412-845-8535

thompson.chad@bphawks.org

BLACK HAWK TV

Black Hawk TV is the student led video production club at Bethel Park High School. This club is in charge of filming events at BPHS such as games, concerts, the play, and the musical. BHTV is also in charge of streaming games on YouTube Live using high end professional video equipment. Any student with an interest in broadcasting, video production, or streaming is encouraged to join.

Sponsor: Bradley Kszastowski

kszastowski.bradley@bphawks.org

CHESS CLUB

The Chess Club offers Bethel Park students an enjoyable time, sharing in the excitement of the game of chess. Students learn and develop strategy for competitive chess while meeting other students with similar interests.

Sponsor: Vic DiPrampero

diprampero.victor@bphawks.org

DECA

AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF BUSINESS STUDENTS

DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe. DECA is a co-curricular club; therefore, students must be enrolled in a Marketing Class at BPHS to participate in the program. The club provides students with the opportunity to compete in academic competitions, fulfill leadership roles, participate in community service, and be awarded scholarships. Participation in DECA helps students develop and build the following skills: problem solving, collaboration, creativity, communication, written report preparation, presentation preparation & delivery and networking, among others. Students will have the opportunity to travel and advance to District, State and International Career Development Conferences. Participation is a must for those interested in majoring in business in college or anyone that is looking to build skills that will make themselves successful in any industry!

Sponsor: Emily Smoller

smoller.emily@bphawks.org

DRAMA CLUB

Here is an organization for students who are interested in the theater and in performing on stage. This organization specifically caters to those students who have an avid interest in theater. Meetings generally consist of a variety of theater games and improvisation exercises, with special emphasis on student generated projects. This fun filled activity is designed to promote the potential and abilities of our creative talent. Students will participate in the year-end variety show which features the talents of Bethel Park students. All students are invited.

"The theater is irresistible, organize the theater!" Matthew Arnold

Sponsor Christopher Nagel

nagel.christopher@bphawks.org

FALL PLAY

The Fall Play is an opportunity for students interested in the theater and in performing on stage. Each year Bethel Park students work diligently in preparing a first-class play that both the community and fellow classmates enjoy. Auditions are open to all Bethel Park High School Students in the early fall.

Sponsor Cortney Williams

williams.cortney@bphawks.org

FCCLA - FAMILY, CAREER, & COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA

A nonprofit student organization that develops leaders while addressing personal, work, family and societal issues through family and consumer sciences education. The club focuses on the multiple roles of family member, wage earner and community leader. Members develop skills through leadership; creative and critical thinking; interpersonal communications; practical knowledge; and career preparation.

FCCLA meets once-a-week. Members can participate in workshops at the regional conference and compete in various areas at the state and national level. Any student can participate in grades 9 - 12. FCCLA participates in Community Days and the Homecoming Parade and also focuses on a variety of community service projects.

Sponsor: Heather Fontana

fontana.heather@bphawks.org

FOREIGN EXCHANGE CLUB

This is an excellent opportunity for students who wish to study their particular language in another country. This club offers qualified students the opportunity to live overseas, experience the culture firsthand, and polish language skills. All students are invited.

Sponsor Lorri Smith

smith.lorri@bphawks.org

FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLUB

The Foreign Language Club takes language studies one step further by offering opportunities to practice one's language through games, activities and movies. The culture of countries where our languages are spoken can be explored in numerous ways – sampling their foods, viewing their films, etc... As global citizens students can choose to raise awareness about countries whose languages we study; i.e. Haiti, Costa Rica, etc. With approval, students can choose to give aid to countries in need through various fundraisers.

French Club Sponsor: Tracy McCoy

mccoy.tracy@bphawks.org

Latin Sponsor: Ellen Conrad

conrad.ellen@bphawks.org

German Sponsor: Herr Tobias

tobias.chistopher@bphawks.org

FORENSICS

This team is one of Bethel Park's finest and most successful activities. The team holds membership in two national and one state league. As members of the National Forensic League, the speech and debate honor society, CFL and the Pennsylvania High School Speech League students have the opportunity to compete on the district, state and national levels in various speech and debate activities. Successful students have competed throughout the United States where they have polished their speaking skills, visited unbelievable natural and historical sights and formed lasting friendships.

Forensics is a rewarding co-curricular activity to traditional history and English classes. If you like acting or drama you can compete in a number of speech (IE) events. IE events include interpretation of Prose/Poetry, or perform cuttings from Dramatic/Humorous plays. Students involved in following current events and the world scene may compete in Extemporaneous Speaking; others may have "something to say" and perform in Original Oratory.

Debate events are varied. There are team events such as Cross-Examination (Policy), Public Forum or Parliamentary. Individual debate events include Lincoln-Douglas and Legislative (Student Congress).

Sponsor Christine Robb

robb.christine@bphawks.org

GERMAN CLUB

The German Club provides opportunities for BPHS students of German to increase their understanding of the German language and culture through extra-curricular activities that are intended to promote German as a true means of communication. The club participates in a number of annual German language competitions in and around the Pittsburgh area, attends local German events and sponsors the BPHS chapter of the Delta Epsilon Phi German National Honor Society. The club also strives to create friendship, solidarity and enthusiasm among those Bethel Park students who intend to pursue their study of German beyond the high school level. All Honors and AP German students are welcome. Membership for German 1 students is by invitation only.

Sponsor: Christopher Tobias

tobias.christopher@bphawks.org

HOMECOMING COMMITTEE

Homecoming Week at Bethel Park is an annual fall event that provides fun opportunities for hundreds of students as well as entertainment for the alumni and the community. Activities include: special awards, float building, Powder Puff Football, Homecoming King and Queen, the Homecoming Dance, Parade, Tailgate, and many other related events. Homecoming is an excellent way for incoming freshmen to get involved in High School early on. Students may use their talents in an array of areas and sub committees that come together during Homecoming Week. All students are encouraged to take part in some way.

Sponsor: Brad Kszastowski

kszastowski.bradley@bphawks.org

JUNIOR ENGINEERS

The goal of this organization is to promote better understanding of science and engineering and their relationship to society. To obtain first-hand knowledge of how engineers work, there are field trips to various places. The Junior Engineers sponsor the Pennsylvania Science Olympiad where teams from the high school and middle school compete in events that encompass all branches of science and math at the local level to qualify for state competition.

Sponsors: Randi Durmis

durmis.randi@bphawks.org

Megan Farren

farren.megan@bphawks.org

VERNISSAGE - LITERARY MAGAZINE

Vernissage, the BPHS literary magazine, offers creative writers and artists opportunities to create, to design, and to publish their writing. Staff members have a strong interest in thinking imaginatively, and in developing the ability to recognize artistic and creative writing. The Vernissage staff publishes its annual issue in the spring. To do so requires year-round work to collect, edit, and publish student created submissions. Short stories, poetry, artwork, and photography are published in the annual edition. The students in the high school are encouraged to contribute submissions for the magazine. The staff evaluate the works, and select the best for publication. Typically, the staff meets monthly throughout the year to share and discuss poems and stories and curate art, and weekly in the fourth quarter, leading up to publication. This is an enjoyable club for students who are passionate about literary and communication arts, and is a great experience prior to college application. As students express themselves imaginatively, design innovatively, and use their creative talents of composition and curation, they collaborate to produce a quality publication that represents the writers and artists voices of the Bethel Park High School.

Sponsor: Charles E. Youngs

youngs.charles@bphawks.org

MAJORETTES

The Majorettes are an important component of the Marching Band. They perform challenging and creative dance, drill, and baton routines while cheering on the Band and Bethel Park sports teams. The Majorettes also entertain the community in parades and special presentations at the high school. Try-outs are held in the spring for students in grades 9, 10, and 11.

Sponsor Chad Thompson – 412-845-8535

thompson.chad@bphawks.org

MARCHING BAND

The Bethel Park Marching Band is an excellent way for music loving students to show off their talents, meet new people and create lasting friendships, and learn discipline and life's skills necessary for future success. Marching Band begins in mid-August at Band Camp, performing throughout the year at Half Time Shows, Band Festivals, Steelers Games and special performances. In May, the Band travels to compete at the national level. All students entering grades 10, 11, or 12 are invited to learn more about the Marching Band.

Sponsor Chad Thompson – 412-845-8535

thompson.chad@bphawks.org

MUSICAL

This annual event uses student talent to perform a Broadway musical. Auditions for this theatrical event are held in the fall and are open to all interested students. Bethel Park musicals provide opportunities for students to become involved in the areas of singing, acting, dancing, playing in the pit orchestra, scenery painting, stage crew, make-up, costumes, scenery construction, stage lighting, and sound. All students are welcome.

Sponsor Mr. Todd Kuczawa – 412-845-8531

kuczawa.todd@bphawks.org

NHS -- NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Encourage your son/daughter to become a member of, and a leader in, the National Honor Society. National Honor Society is a service based organization that prides itself on helping the community. We engage in numerous opportunities to benefit the Bethel Park community and beyond. Students are encouraged to develop their own service projects as well as serve a leadership role in them.

The requirements for the NHS are as follows:

To be inducted, students must have a minimum 3.85 QPA (and must maintain this requirement to stay in NHS) at the end of the first semester their sophomore year. All members (even inductees) must have a minimum of 35 community service hours each year. Additionally, every new and current member of NHS submits a Leadership check sheet each year. Inductees must complete the application as well as obtaining two recommendations from their teachers. The application for NHS membership can be found on our webpage (<http://www.bpsd.org/hsNHS.aspx>), but only students who meet our QPA requirements will receive a letter inviting them to join.

Members of NHS are involved in one of three committees: Dance & Induction, PR & Fundraising, or Community Service. Each committee focuses on different aspects ranging from organizing our Glowfest dance, to creating posters for our Send a Cookie to Your Boo Halloween sale.

Sponsor Sean O'Brien

obrien.sean@bphawks.org

HAWK EYE: THE ONLINE STUDENT NEWS OF BPHS

For the latest happenings at Bethel Park High School, Hawk Eye, the online student news of Bethel Park High School, is your source! Hawk Eye provides students interested in communications careers practical experience and an audience for their work. Journalism offers all students the chance to develop their skills in reporting, writing, and producing. Students work as a team, filling roles of reporters, columnists, photographers, videographers, and editors, producing online news.

Sponsor Mr. John Allemang

allemang.john@bphawks.org

PJAS SCIENCE CLUB

A club for those students who are interested in science beyond the science classroom. Students will be provided the opportunity to enter competition at the regional and state levels. A popular competition for science club members is the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science regional and state tournaments, but there are a variety of arenas for students to contribute their experiments and investigations. All students are welcome.

Sponsor: Randi Durmis

durmis.randi@bphawks.org

Megan Farren

farren.megan@bphawks.org

SGA - STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

One hundred and thirty members strong, SGA is a student run organization representing the view of the student body and promoting good relations between students, faculty, and administration. SGA also makes a special effort to reach out to the community. The Bethel Park SGA is a member of the Pennsylvania Association of Student Councils and has a nationwide long standing career of excellence. SGA is divided into the House of Representatives and the Senate guided by an Executive Board. All SGA Executive Board Officers are trained at PASC Leadership Workshops over the summer to ensure the best possible Student Government. In addition to elected offices, students may become involved in committees or apply for Rep at Large status. This organization proves to be one of the most rewarding opportunities on campus. There are always many opportunities to get involved in SGA.

Sponsor: Bradley Kszastowski

kszastowski.bradley@bphawks.org

STAGE CREW

The stage crew at Bethel Park is an extremely active club dedicated to providing excellent service to everyone who uses the auditorium at Bethel Park High School. Our crew members are trained in all technical theater operations. They especially concentrate on lights, sound, props, scenery, gallery, and special effects. The stage crew works all events from assemblies and concerts to our two large scale productions: Fall Play and Spring Musical. All students welcome.

<https://sites.google.com/site/bethelparkcrew/home?authuser=1>

Sponsor: Jessica Kovell

kovell.jessica@bphawks.org

S.T.A.N.D.

Stand Together Against Negativity and Discrimination is a diversity club/organization that provides the opportunity for us to celebrate one another for what others call differences but are characteristics that are unique to us individually. STAND's mission is to spread kindness, respect, dignity, and LOVE. ALL are welcome!!

Sponsor Tracy Ford

ford.tracy@bphawks.org

TALENT SHOW—TELERAMA

The Telerama show is an opportunity for all students to demonstrate their talents whether it be musical, singing, dancing, instrumental, or comedic. It is also a chance for more than a few students to take on leadership roles as an Emcee or a Student Director. All students are invited.

Sponsor: Cortney Williams

williams.cortney@bphawks.org

USHERS CLUB

The members of the ushers club assist for various school sponsored events. They include, but are not limited to the Play, Musical and Telerama. All students are invited.

Sponsor: Mark Render
render.mark@bphawks.org

WAYS AND MEANS

Each class has a ways and means organization under the direction of the class principal, class advisor, and class officers. These groups are in charge of planning, organizing, and carrying out the various activities of each class under the direction of the officers. Ways & Means organize activities that help raise money for Prom, interactive class activities. Each class represents some of the hardest working and most dedicated students in the school. All students are invited.

Sponsors: Class of 2021 - Tracy Schuster
schuster.tracy@bphawks.org
Nicola Hipkins
hipkins.nicola@bphawks.org

Class of 2022 – Alicia Pacek
pacek.alicia@bphawks.org

Class of 2023 – Chris Durco
durco.chris@bphawks.org

Brad Kszastowski
kszastowski.bradley@bphawks.org

Class of 2024 - Randi Durmis
durmis.randi@bphawks.org
Erin Wheat
wheat.erin@bphawks.org