

# Ellington High School

## Clubs and Activities

**2018-2019**

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

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## **Academic**

### **Cooking Club**

**Mr. Helmin**

The Cooking Club is an after school program, open to all students who want to learn how to prepare food that is fun, quickly prepared, and delicious. The club was created to provide an opportunity to students who are unable to take a Culinary Arts course during the regular academic year due to their schedule. There are cooking demonstrations by Chef Helmin and students also get to prepare their own food alongside Student Chefs from the Culinary Competition Team. The faire includes making simple appetizers to 30 minute meals, seasonal dishes, and of course...dessert! The Club meets about once a month in Room 308.

### **Debate Club**

**Mr. Byrne**

The Debate Club is organized for the purpose of improving students' ability to research and organize information, think critically, and speak in public. Members will research hot-topic issues in teams of two and learn how to discuss and argue opposing points of view. It's a great way to work on debate skills such as public speaking, research, and building an argument. The goal is to eventually participate as a team in the Civics First CT debate competition.

# **EHS Achieves**

**Mrs. Wry**

Students that are looking for a quiet place to complete work, study or read are invited to come to **EHS Achieves**. We will be meeting in Room 418 every Thursday from 2:15-2:45. Teachers and students will be available in all subject areas. This could be a time to get work done before sports or activities begin. Email Mrs. Wry with any questions.

# **Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)**

**Mrs. Greenberg and Mrs. LaDuke**

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is an extra-curricular club for students interested in business. It is a national organization with chapters in hundreds of high schools across the nation and many here in Connecticut. The focus of FBLA is to provide experiences that connect what students learn in school with the business world. It helps prepare students for college as well as careers in business. Some of the FBLA activities include fund raising, community service, charitable contributions, connecting with other FBLA chapters, networking with local businesses, guest speakers, field trips, competitions, workshops and more. Chapter officers gain even more leadership experience with public speaking, organizing and running meetings, note taking, managing the treasury, and coordinating events and activities. FBLA is a student-run club with advisors from the EHS business department. The club provides worthwhile and fun experiences for any student who is interested in business.

# **Gardening Club**

**Mr. Gurnon**

The Gardening Club is for students who are interested in plants and their growth. We will grow and sell a variety of plant material from flowering annuals to various vegetables, potted plants, and hanging baskets. Members will learn to care for and maintain the plants, as well as how the production of a living product works. We will also learn about the management and operation of the greenhouse.

# The Knight Writers Literary Magazine and Creative Writing Club

**Mrs. Reilly**

The purpose of the Knight Writers is twofold: to serve as a creative writing club and as a vehicle for publication of student work. The Knight Writers meet every other week after school to share work in progress, give editing advice, engage in creative writing activities, and review materials submitted for publication in The Knight Writers literary magazine. Anybody with an interest in writing creatively and in sharing the love of the written word is welcome.

## Library Advisory

**Ms. Zieger**

Members of the student Library Advisory Board meet monthly during lunch block to assist with selection of new library materials, the review of existing or to-be-acquired books, and ways to promote the library resources. The board also organizes the morning Breakfast Book Club events, which are open to all members of the student body. Members of this group may participate in additional projects as requested such as videotaping of promotional videos, updating of display cases, and use of social media to promote the library holdings and upcoming library events.

## Math Team

**Mr. Melillo**

Making its return to EHS after over a decade, The Math Team is an organization dedicated to learning more about the world of mathematics, and to enjoy the mental challenge it offers. Some of the things this might include are:

- Diving deeper into the topics that are covered in class.
- Learning powerful shortcuts and identities to tie different topics together.
- Solving unique and challenging problems for the enjoyment and exercise of it.
- Sharing math problems and topics with peers for the above purposes

Ultimately, the purpose of the Math Team is to become a full chapter of the Mu Alpha Theta society, and compete against other teams across the region and across the country through national mathematics contests! These contests may even result in awards and prizes for those that perform exceptionally well. We will meet bimonthly at the minimum. While all students are welcome to study mathematics, it is recommended that members have a solid background in Algebra 2 minimum in order to enter contests.

# Mock Trial Team

**Mrs. Ouellet**

The EHS Mock Trial program is designed to provide students with authentic life experiences with respect to our legal system. Mock Trial is both a state and federal program in which schools are provided with a fictional court case and compete against each other in a simulation of a trial under real-life conditions (i.e. in a real courtroom, with real judges). There are opening and closing statements, as well as direct and cross examinations of witnesses. Students review case materials (which include stipulated facts, witness affidavits, case law, and exhibits) and prepare arguments from the perspective of both the prosecution/plaintiff (criminal/civil) and the defense. Preparations begin in September and the first competition is held in December. The mock trial program challenges students' reasoning and problem solving skills, as well as speaking, viewing, listening, and presenting. Students may choose to be attorneys or witnesses. For more information please contact Mrs. Ouellet, Advisor to the EHS Mock Trial Team. More information can also be found at [www.civicsfirstct.org](http://www.civicsfirstct.org).

# More Than Just A Book Club

**Mr. Johnston**

This is a club that is held in a relaxed environment that allows students to analyze challenging books outside of the school day. We will meet twice a month to discuss themes and the author's use of language in books that the group will choose at our first meeting of each year. Any student that has an interest in analyzing books is invited to join.

# Robotics

**Mr. Waine**

The Robotics club is open to all students interested in the field of robotics and engineering. No experience necessary, however if you previously took the Robotics course it would definitely be a help. We will be building robots using the VEX platform to compete in the annual VEX competition. Working in partners and teams will be an essential component of the club, so sign up with a friend or two! The club will meet once a week after school and competitions are usually held on Saturdays. We may meet more than once a week as the competition gets closer. For more information about the current competition, visit <http://www.vexrobotics.com/vexedr/competition>.

# Scrapbooking Club

**Mrs. Reilly**

Have you ever wondered what scrapbooking is all about? Do you want to rescue the photos on your phone, print them out, and do something creative with them? Do you want to remember the details about your life's daily events? Then, this is the club for you. We will share ideas, scrapbooking materials, and fun times creating scrapbooks that will tell YOUR story.

# **Student Council**

**Mr. Helmin**

The Student Council is one of the primary governing student organizations at Ellington High School. Membership is open to all grade levels and General Assembly Induction Ceremonies take place in October of each school year. Members are required to attend all General Assembly meetings, participate on various sub-committees and most annual events including: Freshmen Orientation, Class Officer Elections, EHS Open House, EHS Parent/Teacher Conferences, Spirit Week, Homecoming Dance, a Veterans' Day Assembly, Special Issues Resolution Council, and various fundraisers and charity events. General Assembly meetings occur once a month. Freshmen students are encouraged to join.

# **Yearbook**

**Mr. Johnston**

The activity is open to all students who wish to plan and design the Ellington High School Yearbook. Members are responsible for the entire book and all business aspects of sales. This is a big responsibility but also a great way to become a part of the permanent memory we create with our annual yearbook publication! This group meets weekly after school where members receive assignments and responsibilities. The length of time required for assigned tasks varies depending upon the scope of the assignment. Students are expected to work independently to complete page assignments. Alternate meeting times are arranged as needed. Staff members in the yearbook club learn to organize, plan, and lay out text and artwork for the high school yearbook. They also learn photography and Photoshop skills. Members who are involved in the club for subsequent years are expected to take leadership roles, and preference for those positions will be given to returning seniors.

# **The Connecticut YOUTH Forum**

**Mr. Hoffman**

The mission of the Connecticut Youth Forum is to bring youth together through discussion and action while providing opportunities for growth and exploration as an individual and as part of a diverse community. The Youth Forum brings high school students from the greater Hartford area together to participate in discussions and other learning opportunities. The annual Student Exchange Event brings more than 300 teens together for a full day of workshops, discussions, food and fun. Other activities throughout the year include college visits, cultural field trips, leadership and service learning opportunities and much more!

# **Community Service**

## **Hands Creating Hope**

**Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Ward**

The purpose of Hands Creating Hope is to help people in our community that have fallen upon hard times and need a leading hand. We will be knitting and sewing items to place in a bag and give to families at our local homeless shelters, the Tri-Town Shelter and the Cornerstone Foundation Shelter. We hope these bags create a stepping stone for these families to be able to get back on their feet and show them that they have people on their side cheering for them.

## **Peer Advocates for a Better Society (PAABS)**

**Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. McGinn**

Peer Advocates for a better society is a mutually student- and faculty advisor-run group that works to improve school climate at EHS. Our mission is to foster awareness and understanding of others by promoting tolerance and self dignity through cultural understanding and ethical behavior. We will work to create school initiatives which aim to create a positive school environment that will help shape our future graduates into innovators and honorable individuals.

Meeting a minimum of once a month after school, Peer Advocates for a Better Society members will work independently and/or in conjunction with other school clubs, activities, and faculty members on projects such as the "Compliment Walk," local community service.

Future Goals: PAABS and its members will continually work to create new initiatives and goals based on student demand, the needs of Ellington High School, and the changing Ellington community.

If you are an individual who could see yourself participating in the above mentioned activities and would like to play a critical role in shaping our school environment, you are more than welcome to join the Peer Advocates for a better society effort!

# **FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS**

## **Opening Knight Players**

**Mr. Prenetta and Ms. Palmer**

Membership in the Opening Knight Players Drama Club is open to any student interested in theater. Throughout the school year, students may participate in the production of a major play, musical, student written/directed one-acts, 30 X 60 plays, and attendance at the Connecticut Drama Association's Annual play festival. For these events, students can involve themselves in a wide range of activities including acting, crew work, directing, and playwriting. Students may also participate in field trips to numerous professional theatrical productions, including an annual trip to Broadway.

Exceptional theater students also have the opportunity to be inducted into Troupe 5226 of the International Thespian Society, an honor society that recognizes outstanding leadership in theater arts. This group of Thespians performs community service, organize several social events, prepare the Thespian Induction Ceremony, and plan the annual drama banquet.

## **Marching Band/Color Guard**

**Mr. DeLassus, Marching Band**

**Ms. Snay, Color Guard**

Band members, including Color Guard, compete at Eastern States Exposition and also march in the following parades: Firemen's Fair, The Four Town Fair, and Memorial Day. Practice takes place during and after school.

## **Winter Guard**

**Mr. DeLassus and Ms. Snay (Winter - Spring)**

The Winter Guard practices at Crystal Lake School and performs artistic dance and color guard type shows at competitions in the spring.

## **Social/Support**

### **Gay-Straight Alliance**

**Mr. Johnston and Mr. Scavotto**

The Ellington High School Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) is a student-run club that provides a safe place for students to meet, support each other, talk about issues related to sexual orientation, and work to end prejudice around issues of gender and sexual orientation. The participants of the GSA work on educating themselves and the broader school community about sexual orientation and gender identity issues.

### **Peer Mediation**

**Mr. Gardiner and Mr. McCallum**

Peer Mediators help to resolve student conflicts. Mediation allows disputing parties to bring their disagreement to the mediation table in order to work out their differences cooperatively. Students in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 may apply to become mediators. Those selected will attend training to learn specific communication skills necessary to lead the mediation process. Peer Mediators also work to support elementary students by providing workshops to teach various communication and conflict resolution skills.

### **Social Justice Club**

**Mrs. Reilly**

Our mission is to promote action related to the honoring rights and equality for all in our community and in the greater world! We are dedicated to promoting peace, raising awareness of human rights, and creating understanding and unity among diverse peoples.

# **Sports/Recreation**

## **Athletics**

Please visit the Athletics page of our web site for information on tryouts/practices, schedules, and requirements.

Athletic Director – Mr. Tim McCluskey

### **Girls**

#### **Soccer**

Mr. LaPorte

#### **Cross Country**

Mr. Flamino

#### **Basketball**

Mr. Pointek

#### **Lacrosse**

Mrs. Orvis

#### **Softball**

Mr. Gordon

#### **Indoor Track**

Mr. Corbett and Mr. Flamino

#### **Outdoor Track**

Mr. Corbett and Mr. Flamino

#### **Golf**

Mr. Stiles

#### **Volleyball**

Mrs. Huie

#### **Hockey**

Mr. Gozzi

#### **Gymnastics**

Ms. Boucher

#### **Cheerleading**

Miss Miller

**Dance**

Miss Selochan

**Swimming**

Miss Loignon

**Tennis**

Mr. Willis

**Unified Basketball**

Mr. Schroth

**Boys**

**Soccer**

Mr. Gurnon

**Cross Country**

Mr. Flamino

**Basketball**

Mr. Freitas

**Lacrosse**

Mr. Giordano

**Baseball**

Mr. Tautkus

**Indoor Track**

Mr. Corbett and Mr. Flamino

**Outdoor Track**

Mr. Corbett and Mr. Flamino

**Golf**

Mr. Stiles

**Hockey**

Mr. Fijalkowski

**Football**

Mr. Byrne

**Wrestling**

Mr. Mangelli

**Swimming**

Mr. Mattia

**Tennis**  
Mr. Willis

**Unified Basketball**  
Mr. Schroth

## **Badminton Club**

**Mr. Stiles**

The Badminton Club is an opportunity for students to play both casually or competitively after school several times during the fall semester. Bring your own racket, or borrow one of ours, it's sure to be a good time. For more information about this club, please see Mr. Stiles.

## **Cycling Club**

**Eric Jansen**

The EHS Cycling Club meets 1-2 times a week in the fall and spring, weather permitting. All students and staff are eligible to participate, regardless of ability or experience. Road and mountain cyclists are welcome. Rides will consist of established road routes starting and finishing at Ellington High School. Competition is optional, not required, and at the discretion of riders and parents. A signed waiver, helmet and appropriate cycling clothing are required to participate. Be sure to join our email list for the dates and times the club will be meeting. For more information regarding competition, please visit: <http://www/crcyclingadventure.org/>.

## **Dungeons & Dragons**

The Dungeons & Dragons Club is a group where teenagers can feel safe expressing their creativity and love of fantasy and role play. We work together to reach a common goal within the game where everyone gets to voice their own ideas by creating their own fictional character and building their own stories and adventures around those characters . . .

- Promotes individuality
- Promotes creativity
- Promotes teamwork
- Promotes a love of imagination

# **The Gaming Club**

**Mr. Lyver**

The Gaming Club is a place for gamers to have a fun and welcoming community at EHS, with a focus on teamwork and strategy. We meet every Wednesday to play various video games. There are no requirements to join, and no prior knowledge of video games is required.

# **Ping Pong Club**

**Mr. Stiles**

The Ping Pong Club meets about twice a month for both casual and tournament play. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced player we'll have a game for you - all abilities are welcome. Be sure and listen to the daily announcements for dates and times the club will be meeting. Ultimate Frisbee Club Mr. Stiles The Ultimate Frisbee Club meets about twice a month for both casual and tournament play. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced player we'll have a game for you - all abilities are welcome. Be sure and listen to the daily announcements for dates and times the club will be meeting.

# **Ultimate Frisbee Club**

**Mr. Stiles**

The Ultimate Frisbee Club meets about twice a month for both casual and tournament play. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced player we'll have a game for you - all abilities are welcome. Be sure and listen to the daily announcements for dates and times the club will be meeting.