

# **Wayne Valley Clubs and Activities**

## **Academic Competition**

**Advisors:** Mary Ann Gainer and Stephanie Cielusniak

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The team meets in the WVHS library where members practice and participate in mock tournaments to prepare for future competitions. Throughout the course of the year, the Academic Competition team participated in various competitions. Each month the team practices for the monthly Questions Unlimited on-line competition. This competition offers a free monthly trivia quiz bowl as well as samples of questions used in academic competitions for high schools. Students collaborate to answer the "Twenty Questions." The team also participates in a weekly Internet tournament competing against top high schools in the nation.

The team participates in an on-line national and international competition. The Knowledge Master Open (KMO) began in 1983 with 72 schools; it now annually attracts over 3,000 schools and 45,000 participants from the U.S. and several countries around the globe. Teams in the KMO receive curriculum-based contest questions (200 at secondary levels; 100 at 5th & 6th grade levels) on a CD-ROM and compete using a computer at our own school. The event is held twice each year first in the fall and then in the spring.

The Bridgewater-Raritan (B.R.I.T.E.) tournament provides the students a forum in which to excel and earn both prestige and prize money for WVHS. The tournament follows a "quiz bowl" format, pitting one school against one of many other schools in three rounds over a period of several months of competition. Recognition is awarded to outstanding schools and to individual team members at the conclusion of competition. Certificates and trophies are awarded, and the winning schools are able to take home checks in a sizable amount to be deposited in the school's scholarship fund and disbursed to students pursuing higher education. Wayne Valley's team has been awarded scholarship money several times.

Wayne Valley competes in "The Challenge" on MSG Varsity when chosen. The team appears on this televised quiz show which is similar to "Jeopardy."

## **Auto Club**

**Advisor:** Ken Bergen [kbergen@wayneschools.com](mailto:kbergen@wayneschools.com)

The purpose of *Auto Club* is to take advantage of student's interest in the automotive field. It allows you to get further in depth knowledge of anything that is automotive related. Whether you enjoy auto as a hobby or plan to make it a career Auto Club will certainly teach you and give you experience in the field that would be helpful for your future. What we do in the Auto Club ranges from how to change a tire to as far as how to complete a Brake job. With the help of our A.S.E. certified instructor Mr. Bergen, the club receives helpful advice, tips, and tricks from a certified technician.

## **Chess Club**

**Advisor:** Pat Slater [pslater@wayneschools.com](mailto:pslater@wayneschools.com)

The *Chess Club* provides a forum for students to play chess and other games of strategy. We play by 'blitz' rules against other like-minded students and faculty in a supportive environment. Given sufficient numbers, we host round-robin style tournaments. All are welcome to learn and play regardless of proficiency or prior experience.

## **Color Guard**

**Advisor:** Aaron Palmer – [aaron.palmer1@yahoo.com](mailto:aaron.palmer1@yahoo.com)

*Color Guard* has evolved over the years into a form of entertainment similar to dance theater. Color Guard uses props, along with movement, to express dynamic passages in the music accompanying the marching band show. A color guard is traditionally the visual representation of the music. Modern color guards use flags and other pieces of equipment pertaining to the music. Continuing a long-time tradition, the marching band and color guard perform during football games at halftime, out of tradition.

## **Drama & Theater Club**

**Advisors:** Melinda DelPizzo & Cindy Hannon

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The *Drama and Theater Club* is a club for students who enjoy acting and theatre. When the club meets students have the opportunity to sharpen their acting skill through improvisational games and activities as well as performing scenes and monologues. There is a state wide theatre competition in which students can also participate.

## **Environmental Club**

**Advisors:** Kelly Minehart- [kminehart@wayneschools.com](mailto:kminehart@wayneschools.com)

***The purpose of the Environmental Club is to:***

- Promote ecological awareness within Wayne Valley
- Participate in environmentally related service projects
- Organize enjoyable nature-related activities
- Participate in the NJ Envirothon competition in May

### ***What do we do?***

- Participate in the NJ Envirothon in May.
- Hold woods clean-ups behind the school.
- Go on local hikes and trips (Norvin Green SF, Pyramid Mountain, Montclair Hawk Watch).
- Host guest speakers from environmental organizations (like the Passaic River Coalition).
- Hold discussions on current environmental issues and educate the school community on their impacts and solutions.
- Watch environmental-themed videos, lectures, and interviews online.
- For more information, see our club website: <https://sites.google.com/site/wvenviroclub/home>

## **Fall & Spring Production**

**Advisors:** Allison Solomon, Production Assistant- Lisa Sabatino

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Wayne Valley All School Production: Wayne Valley High School produces two theatrical productions a year, one in the fall and one in the spring. The fall drama is a full production of a nonmusical play. The spring musical is a full production of a musical play. Students may be involved as performers through a two day audition process in late September, followed by rehearsals Monday through Thursday and Saturday morning. Final performances are the weekend before Thanksgiving. Spring auditions are in the beginning of January and the rehearsal process culminates in the final production in late March. Students may also train and participate as stage crew and in the craft of technical theatre (set construction, sound, lighting, props, costumes and stage management) for one or both productions.

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

**Advisor:** George Martinez & Linnea Quintina

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*Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)* is the largest business student organization in the world! As a member of FBLA, many opportunities are available to help build leadership skills, attend state and national conferences, and compete in one of numerous areas of business, computers, and internet topics. FBLA members have the opportunity to run for local, state and national office. Wayne Valley FBLA members are also actively involved in raising money for FBLA's charity, The March of Dimes.

General membership meetings take place once a month or on an as needed basis. To become a member, simply fill out an application and include the membership dues of \$15, which includes national, state and local dues. To learn more about FBLA programs and activities visit the national site at [www.fbla-pbl.org](http://www.fbla-pbl.org) and the NJ site at [www.njfblla.org](http://www.njfblla.org).

## **The Gay Straight Alliance**

**Advisors:** Kim Mapp- [kmapp@wayneschools.com](mailto:kmapp@wayneschools.com)

The *Gay Straight Alliance* (GSA) is a group of students concerned with not only lesbian-gay-bi-transgender (LGBT) rights, but also peer tolerance and respect. We promote the understanding of individuals with various sexual orientations through open communication and education. We create a comfortable forum to not only discuss the issues facing the gay community but issues that impact the overall student population. We also do events and activities to promote the rights of all people. The GSA is not a "gay club," it is a club for all.

## **History Club**

**Advisor:** Elissa Kempin- [ekempin@wayneschools.com](mailto:ekempin@wayneschools.com)

The *National History Club* provides opportunities for students to experience history outside the classroom in a way that illuminates its relevance to the world today. Members will engage in activities, trips, speakers and projects that help students to see the history that surrounds them on an everyday basis.

## **Jazz Band**

**Advisor:** Gabe Batiz- [gbatiz@wayneschools.com](mailto:gbatiz@wayneschools.com)

The Wayne Valley High School *Jazz Band* is an ensemble designed from the "Big Bands" of the 30's and 40's. Students are given an opportunity to audition for this select ensemble in November and the group performs throughout the year.

*Although the "Big Bands" provide the greatest influence on this ensemble, Latin, Funk and even Rock genres are explored. Basic skills in improvisation are taught and students are given the chance to experiment in this idiom.*

*The Jazz Band performs in school concerts and for various Community and Senior Citizen events each year. The highlight of each year is the "All Wayne Jazz Festival" which features the Jazz bands from all of the Wayne Middle and High Schools.*

## **Leo Club**

**Advisor:** Al Ruffini - [mars1938@optonline.net](mailto:mars1938@optonline.net)

The Leo Club is a community service club sponsored by the Wayne Lions. Members dedicate themselves to serving the visually and physically handicap in New Jersey. Students have access to opportunities to learn and practice leadership skills and participate in community service projects. Community involvement include helping at Camp Marcella for the blind, Foundation for the Handicap and St. Joseph's School for the blind in Jersey City. Students also help to clean Asbury Park beach twice a year. If interested please contact the advisor Al Ruffini.

## **Literary Review (Emphasis) Club**

**Advisor:** Jeff White- [jwhite@wayneschools.com](mailto:jwhite@wayneschools.com)

*Emphasis* is Wayne Valley's creative writing club. Students are encouraged to read their own "stuff," typically poetry but stories and non-fiction is always welcome, or the work of other writers. Students are free to offer comments / responses to what is read and often we practice different writing exercises to get ideas and the imagination flowing. In addition to a coffeehouse, themed meetings, and a writing contest, the club publishes a summative literary magazine at the close of each school year. Anyone who likes expression in all forms will find a home in *Emphasis*.

## **Marching Band**

**Advisors:** Gabe Batiz & Assistant Band Director- Christina Fiorletta  
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The *Marching Band* is a competitive unit, that attends competitions at local high schools and professional/collegiate athletic stadiums (ex. Giants Stadium). The band performs in approximately 4-6 competitions and a championship event each season. In addition, the band performs for community events, parades, and school events. The band also travels on an annual Band Trip to locations such as Busch Gardens, Six Flags, Hershey Park, and Disney World! *Marching Band* begins in August and ends in the beginning of November, and is a voluntary organization. The marching band provides a place where students learn values and standards, while depending on one another in their pursuit of excellence. Students learn about responsibility, doing their fair share, and working toward a common goal. They learn to value people, respect their peers, and not make judgments on the superficial. Future life lessons and values are instilled as a means for both personal and musical growth through the marching band activity. The band has enjoyed much success gaining Superior ratings at festivals, and earning state recognition through various performances. Be a part of a continuously growing, award winning, marching band!

## **The National Art Honors Society**

**Advisors:** Angela Gingerelli & Kristin Olivo

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***The purposes of the National Art Honor Society are to:***

1. Recognize those students who have shown outstanding ability in the field of art.
2. Serve as an inspiration for students to strive for higher goals in their work.
3. Foster excellence and a dedicated spirit in the pursuit of art.
4. Encourage the creative abilities and talents of the individual student.
5. Assist students in working toward the attainment of their highest potential in the art field.
6. Bring art to the attention of the school and community.
7. Increase the awareness of art as a viable area within the total school curriculum.
8. Advance aesthetic awareness in all aspects of the total educational program.

9. To promote and raise awareness of visual arts at Wayne Valley.
10. To serve the community.

**Requirements for joining:**

- High interest in Art and dedication to visual arts at Wayne Valley High School
- Student Application along with a \$3.00 membership fee
- Must attend one meeting per month
- Must complete 6 service hours by the end of the school year

## **The National Honor Society**

**Advisor:** Matthew Mingnanelli- [mmingnanelli@wayneschools.com](mailto:mmingnanelli@wayneschools.com)

*Assistant-* Brian Kutzleb- [bkutzleb@wayneschools.com](mailto:bkutzleb@wayneschools.com)

*The National Honor Society* is the front-runner of organizations and societies that promote appropriate recognition for students who reflect outstanding accomplishments in the areas of academics, character, leadership, and service. College admissions officers often look for Honor Society membership as a valid indicator that the applicant will succeed at the collegiate level of post-secondary education.

Membership carries with it a responsibility to the chapter. In order to be considered for membership, each student must enter his or her junior year with a minimum 3.500 GPA (GPA's are never rounded up), and have a history of employment and/or volunteer work. If accepted into the chapter, each member must complete a minimum of twenty hours per year of community service, and participate in at least four NHS group service acts.

Serving one another and the community is at the forefront of the Wayne Valley chapter. Members of the National Honor Society are obligated to fulfill this requirement with behavior that is honorable, responsible, and generous to others. The Wayne Valley chapter provides individual members the opportunity to share their talents with other students, their school, and their community. Elections for president and vice president are held in June. Elections for secretary, treasurer and historian are held in October following the induction of new members. In addition to elected positions, the advisor, with the consent of the principal, appoints up to four addition executive board members.

## **Peer Leaders**

**Advisor:** Heather Potts – [hpotts@wayneschools.com](mailto:hpotts@wayneschools.com)

*Assistant-* Christina Finnegan- [hfinnegan@wayneschools.com](mailto:hfinnegan@wayneschools.com)

*Peer Leaders* are students in Grades 10-12 who focus on improving the climate of the school by maintaining positive leadership characteristics. Peer Leaders are involved in various school activities, maintain competitive grade point averages, and are role models among their classmates. Annual Peer Leader activities include the New Registrant Breakfast, Thanksgiving Food Drive, Holiday Toy Drive, and Senior Drunk-driving Awareness, among many other events. Applications to become a Peer Leader are available each Spring.



## **People to People International**

**Advisor:** Kim Mapp – [kmapp@wayneschools.com](mailto:kmapp@wayneschools.com)

The *People to People International* Club works to promote the message of 'peace through understanding'. The club generally meets twice a month after school, and is involved in various projects in and out of school. In the past, the club has painted a mural, had bake sales to raise money for various causes, and participated as a team in the annual walk for cancer, Relay for Life. Members also learn more about different cultures around the world through group discussions as a part of the meetings. The club is a branch of the group People to People International which offers many trips on a national and international level! As a member of this club, a student would be responsible for attending the meetings, getting involved with any activities, and being ready to learn about new cultures! The executive board of this club is made up of a president, vice president, secretary, and public-relations officer.

## **Percussion Club**

**Advisors:** Gabriel Batiz - [gbatiz@wayneschools.com](mailto:gbatiz@wayneschools.com)

The Wayne Valley Percussion Club encourages all students with an interest in percussive instruments to explore their abilities in rhythms and music notation. The club has an annual goal of performing at least one (1) show for the public during the Spring. We practice once a week in the Band Room and take pride in learning different genres of music and techniques all while expressing our individual talents. The club is meant for any student at Wayne Valley to join, and discover the many different aspects that music has to offer through percussion.

## **Student Dance Association**

**Advisors:** Tracy Winand, Assistant.- Michael Winand/Sarah Casa [twinand@wayneschools.com](mailto:twinand@wayneschools.com)

Wayne Valley SDA has been a tradition for many years, recently celebrating its 60th anniversary. The program emphasizes sportsmanship, cooperation, commitment, and school spirit. The best part about SDA is that **anyone** can join! You don't even need any dance experience. Girls who want to join SDA will be placed on either the Blue or White team randomly as freshman. They can choose to be on one or two dances, and at times even all four dances. Captain Tryouts and Overall tryouts are held each year. Those positions are generally reserved for Juniors and Seniors with dance experience. SDA Board Positions are also available generally to Juniors and Seniors.

## **Smoke Signals (Newspaper)**

**Advisor:** Cindi Hannon & Amy Nazarco

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*Smoke Signals* is Wayne Valley's school newspaper, which publishes online issues about six times per school year. Our school newspaper contains articles about school news, world news, entertainment, editorials, reviews, sports, environmental issue and more. The staff is comprised of about forty student writers and about twelve student editors. Editors grammatically edit and publish the work of their peers throughout the course of the school year. Our school newspaper website is [wvsmokesignals.weebly.com](http://wvsmokesignals.weebly.com).

## **Student Council**

**Advisors:** Dennis Carroll & Danielle Savvas

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The Executive Student Council oversees most student government activities with the building. The Student Council consists of an executive president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, a senior and junior representative, and one board liaison representative. The board liaison is present once per month at a board meeting to present any activities going on at Wayne Valley. The representatives are selected by the principal with the advice of the advisors.

The executive president meets at least three times per week with the advisors. The full council meets every week after school and once per month convenes with all class officers. The meetings include planning most school functions, i.e. Spirit Week and Pep Rallies. In addition, the Executive Council advises and consents to most activities that involve the other individual classes and other school organizations.

All on-campus fund raising programs are scheduled by the Executive Council with the approval of the principal. Elections take place in May for the following school year. The Executive Council oversees all school-wide elections.

## **Video Club**

**Advisor:** John Randall – [jrandall@wayneschools.com](mailto:jrandall@wayneschools.com)

The *Video Club* meets after school, free periods, evenings, and on the weekends to plan, shoot and edit a number of video productions for in-house use and airing on cable television. The club is an extension of the activities of the television program classes and provides the extra time needed for students to complete these projects. The video club also offers the students the opportunity to learn how to produce and shoot “live” events such as sports, specials, and the arts. The club is also a social group that works on the television studio and equipment, screens, films and videos, plans productions, and hosts occasional Wayne Valley Television Alumni gatherings. The club is open to all students.

**Activities on the Video Club include:**



- “V”- nine editions of the monthly news-magazine show
- “Video Yearbook” (in cooperation with Project Graduation) documenting all kinds of student activities throughout the school year.
- Senior Fashion Show (in cooperation with Project Graduation)m
- Home football games
- Fall, Winter, and Spring Sports
- Holiday and Spring Concerts
- Student Dance Association
- Graduation
- Special Events

## Yearbook

**Advisor:** Kara Condon- & Erica Foster

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Follows the teaching, planning, and pre-assignment work of the classroom with and including but not limited to: planning and finalizing yearbook pages, designing and finalizing spreads, evaluating photography and selecting pictures, process writing and editing articles, attending meetings to photo document, interviewing coaches and advisors, planning sales and selling ads, cataloging individual student photos and compiling student lists, attending after school and evening functions to photo document, computer-setting ads, counting polls and surveys and documenting results, proof reading spreads, uploading and downloading yearbook spreads and proofs, evaluating proofs, individual or selective staff meetings with advisor, cataloging and distribution of school photos, cataloging and distribution of school IDs, distribution of yearbooks, etc. Purpose, ultimate activity and assessment- continuing production of award winning, 272 page, full color yearbook.

Meeting schedule: M-F, Yearbook Office AO145. The after school group is an extension of the classroom group and also meets on weekends and school vacations as necessary to meet the above criteria. Application and interview process takes place in May for following year.

## **Grade Advisors**

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