

Descriptions of Clubs and Activities

The **Academic Team** is a club that participates in academic tournaments versus other high schools. There are about 4 or 5 competitions a year that we travel to after school. The categories are varied and most competitions are in a modified jeopardy format in which we compete in a four person team. Students from any grade may participate in the club! Test your knowledge and join the fun.

The African American Club Mission Statement

The main objective of the African American Club is to enhance student knowledge of African American culture, society, history and background. The African American Club also allows students the opportunity to discuss important current issues in African American society and how to educate themselves about the world around them. The African American Club is open to all students and meets regularly throughout the school year.

FLY Camp (Falcon Leadership for Youth) is a two day Leadership Camp held during the summer for all students entering grades 9-12 at MTHS.

American Legion Oratorical Competition:

Students write and give speeches in a competition that enhances students public speaking skills as well as their knowledge about the Constitution. Students give an 8-10 minute speech on an aspect of a citizen's responsibility to the Constitution and well as four 3-5 minute speeches on assigned topics from the Constitution. The school winner advances to the next levels of the speech competition based upon performance: county, regional, state and national.

Art Club is a place where the creative student can continue his art education and share ideas, techniques and concepts with fellow students. Students work independently and collaborate with fellow classmates on group projects. The student will make art for their portfolios, as well as for the school and community.

The **Marching Band** is open to all students in grades 9-12 who are also enrolled in at least one instrumental class. This group performs at all Varsity Football Games as well as numerous Marching Band competitions during the fall season. Color Guard is also part of the Marching Band as they have the same rehearsal and performance schedule. Practices begin in August and conclude in early November after the USSBA Championships.

The **Jazz Ensemble** is an auditioned group open to anyone in grades 9-12 enrolled in at least one instrumental class. Practices begin in November and conclude in May. Performances include the winter and spring concerts as well as festivals and local events.

Come play a game of chess and challenge your skills. Even if you do not know the rules of chess – we will teach you! The Monroe **Chess Club** usually meets after school in Room F327. Get to know this gripping game that the whole world enjoys! All are welcome.

Men's Chorus is a small ensemble of male singers which meets one to two times per week throughout the year, and performs at the Winter and Spring Chorus Concerts. Led by two conductors, the ensemble practices and performs a variety of Choral repertoire written for tenor and bass voices, including American and Multicultural works which can be either accompanied or a cappella.

The **Coach's Club** is designed to coach students to develop their organization and effectiveness within their subject classes. The club will offer the students the skills and confidence to gain a higher level of understanding. It will provide a welcoming and friendly environment for all students to gather to help each other and to encourage student to reach their potential.

The Computer Club provides an enjoyable learning environment for tech enthusiasts of all grade and ability levels. The primary focus and direction of the club is based on student interest. Possible topics include: current events & tech gadgets, hardware, networking, PC troubleshooting, Visual Basic, Java, Web Design, iOS Application Development, and more!

DECA is part of an international organization of students and helps to prepare members to become leaders in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management. The chapter participates in academic competition, community service, social activities/field trips. DECA is open to all students in grades 9-12. The Coach's Club is designed to coach students to develop their organization and effectiveness within their subject classes. The club will offer the students the skills and confidence to gain a higher level of understanding. It will provide a welcoming and friendly environment for all students to gather to help each other and to encourage student to reach their potential.

The **Ex-Animo** club was started in 2010 by a group of outstanding and motivated students who wanted to dedicate their time and effort to bettering the lives of others. That legacy is maintained by the students at MTHS who selflessly volunteer at and setup various fundraising events in and around our community. These activities include things such as clothing and book drives, 5k's, volunteering at senior centers and soup kitchens, and fundraisers like candy and bake sales which help to raise money for a yearly giving spree coordinated with Angelwish and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

The **MTHS Footlights Club** is comprised of students interested in theatre. Students participate in various aspects of theatre, e.g., acting, stage crew, lighting. There are no formal meetings, as student members of the club are involved in the various theatrical school productions during the year. Auditions for shows are open to the entire student body, while involvement in technical aspects of theatre can be arranged through the director.

The International Thespian Society is an honor society for students of high school theatre. Students are inducted into the society based upon participation in multiple school productions. Election to the society is determined by a cumulative point system that weighs all aspects of theatre, both acting and technical.

The **Winter Color Guard** is open to any students in grades 9-12. It is a competitive indoor color guard which competes at events throughout the winter and spring. Practices begin in November

and conclude in April after the Winter Guard Championships.

The **Environmental Action Club** focuses on environmental issues in the Monroe area. The EAC helps with the Green Fair at Oak Tree elementary school, champions awareness programs, and raises money for environmental causes.

FLY Camp (Falcon Leadership for Youth) is a two day Leadership Camp held during the summer for all students entering grades 9-12 at MTHS. It is a program which builds lifelong leadership skills that can be used as a gateway to achieving career goals. It also provides the chance for students to develop friendships and have a sense of pride in their own natural abilities. There is no cost to attend. Bussing and lunch are provided.

FBLA – Future Business Leaders of America is an extra-curricular club at MTHS that focusses on students interested in business. Some key benefits of membership include: Acquiring leadership skills, Competing in competitions, Winning recognition at conference, Being a part of a team, Improving and enhancing job skills, Travel, Meeting new people, Meeting business professionals, Earning scholarship money, Community Service, Working with March of Dimes, Fundraising/Sales experience

FCCLA-Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America is an organization that focuses on personal growth and development through Family and Consumer Science education. Students will participate in a Fall and Spring Leadership Conference, including optional event competitions. The chapter activities help members become strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities.

The Société Honoraire de Français (**The French National Honor Society**) is an organization whose intent is to recognize high school students in the United States who have maintained excellent grades in at least three semesters of French language courses; this is done by induction into the organization.

The **Newspaper Club** provides the school and community with up-to-date news stories on what is going on in the school, community, and around the world. The website is maintained by the Journalism I and II students, but anyone can join the club after school. In addition to writing articles, students who join the newspaper club can write or do other jobs, such as photography or videography. Check out our website at www.falconers-voice.com

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Student Athletes of the Christian faith come together in a non-threatening environment for worship. Meetings are student-led, creating a stronger sense of fellowship. Guest speakers attend meetings on a regular basis. Annual events include Movie Night, Super Bowl Breakfast and Ultimate Frisbee Tournament. Non-athletes are welcome to attend.

The primary goal of the Monroe Township H S **Gay Straight Alliance** is to create awareness so that every student in our community can feel respected and comfortable. The GSA will be meeting regularly to address ways to educate our community about homophobia and general

ethics concerning people of different sexual orientations and gender identities. The group welcomes students of all sexual orientations, races and backgrounds.

History Club:

Students with an interest in history, civics, government and law should join the History Club! We engage in a variety of activities including visiting historical places, watching and discussing historical movies and documentaries, meeting with veterans and Holocaust survivors and others who have lived through significant periods of history, as well as discussions of related current events.

The **Italian Honors Society** is a club where students can enrich in the Italian customs and traditions while at the same time raising money for a group made decision for a charity and any particular senior awards towards a college or university.

Jazz Dance Team: Student-choreographed routines are performed during halftime at Boys Varsity Basketball games and also at other school functions. We meet throughout the entire school year; practices are held after school. Try out dates will be announced in September. **You must have an up- to-date sports physical in order to participate.

Key Club is an international student-led organization which provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character, and develop leadership. Members volunteer their time at nursing homes, community centers, and various events within the community. Key club works closely with the local Kiwanis Club to help host events and raise funds for various charities.

Literary Magazine Club: The Literary Magazine Club is a team of dedicated, creative individuals who compile a variety of poetry, short stories, art, and photography from Monroe students throughout the year. In the 2012-2013 school year, the team organized the year's eclectic mix of artistic talent into a webpage: monroepoetsociety.com. The webpage has replaced the "traditional" end of the year publication as it allows for ongoing, fresh edits and change that keeps pace with the cultivation of the school's literary talent.

Mathletes is an academic club that participates in monthly competitions with other schools in the Middlesex area. Students compete individually, and as a school. It is intended for students who enjoy mathematics, but anyone is welcome to join.

The **Mock Trial Club** is an association that meets to prepare for the New Jersey State Bar Foundation's Annual Mock Trial Competition. Each year, the Competition presents club members with either a civil or criminal case based upon a fictitious set of facts. Club members then meet to analyze the case, develop arguments, and then act as lawyers and witnesses representing the two sides of the case. In late January, student teams meet at the Middlesex County Courthouse in New Brunswick to compete against other high schools in front of a real judge in a real courtroom. If you are interested in learning more about the law and want to participate in lively debate, the Mock Trial Club is certainly the club for you.

Model UN

Our program is designed to introduce students to the operation and structure of the United Nations while providing them with an opportunity to actively learn about world cultures and debate issues of international importance. Students will actively participate in conflict resolution, public speaking, and coalition building, in addition to making new friends and being exposed to new ideas. The program promotes leadership through character development, while introducing students to a vast array of ideas.

Multicultural Club aspires to teach MTHS students about other cultures. Multicultural Club members organize an event every year at the high school. This event provides a venue for students to experience different foods, cultural performances, fashion show and music. All students ranging from freshmen to seniors are welcome to join the club.

The **National Honor Society** is an organization that recognizes high school students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Students who have a cumulative grade point average of a 90.0 or higher for their first 5 semesters of their high school career will be invited to apply to become a member of the National Honor Society.

Requirements:

- Cumulative GPA of 90.0 or higher
- 30 hours of community service (completed during high school career)
- 10 hours demonstrating leadership
- 2 teacher recommendations regarding character

The current members of the MTHS National Honor Society provide many services to the school and to the community. All members tutor MTHS students after school Monday-Thursday during the school year in the MTHS Media Center. The members also participate in many service and fundraising projects throughout the year. The funds are allocated to a charity of the members' choice and to two scholarships that are given to MTHS Seniors. The current membership has chosen our 2013-14 charity to be Special Strides, a non-profit organization devoted to improving the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities. Special Strides is located in Monroe Township.

The primary goal of the Monroe Township H S **Peace Ambassadors** is to create awareness of the need for every student in our community to be respected and feel safe. The Peace Ambassadors will be meeting regularly to address ways to keep our school peaceful and respectful. The group welcomes all. We have lots of exciting programs and activities lined up for this school year, and we look forward to all the wonderful ideas that you can contribute. If you have any questions please see Ms. Ielpi and Ms. Mullarney.

Poetry Club: The MTHS Poetry Club allows Monroe's poets and rappers to have a venue to share and improve their writing and performing talents. Every meeting there is an open mic session where students read and perform their poems, a creative writing session designed to improve writing skills and perspective, and a "freestyle circle." The freestyle circle has become an epic tradition

in which the students beat box or utilize a beat while they create rhymes "off the top" of their head in order to improve "on the spot" creativity and public speaking comfort.

The Photography Club is an extra-curricular club at MTHS for students with an interest in taking and sharing pictures. If you love taking pictures, doing fun and creative things with them, then this is the club for you! Club members come to meetings with photos to share and discuss with the class! It's great fun for everyone!

Other club activities include: Learning how to use photo sharing websites, Photo contests, Ideas on how to arrange personal/school photos to create scrapbook pages, Photography gift ideas for friends & family using your own personal photos, Photography tips from your peers.

Project Graduation is an event that is held nationwide following high school graduation to provide graduating seniors an opportunity to celebrate their graduation with their peers in a safe, supervised, tobacco, substance and alcohol-free atmosphere. It began over 30 years ago in Oxford Hills, Maine in response to 7 alcohol and other drug related deaths of teens in the graduation season of 1979. Project Graduation is an event designed to keep our graduating seniors alive and safe on graduation night.

Science/Robotics Club - Competitive Robotics! Learn to build Robots using the Vex Robotics system. After building the robots, students will get the chance to compete in the Vex Robotics Competition, a

Worldwide competitive Robotics League!

THE **NEW JERSEY SCIENCE LEAGUE** IS A COMPETITIVE SCIENCE ORGANIZATION THAT IS UNIQUE IN BOTH THE STATE AND OUR NATION. STARTED IN 1962, THE LEAGUE NOW OFFERS FOUR MAIN COMPETITIONS CONSISTING OF EXAMS IN BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS, AND EARTH SCIENCE FOR ALL STUDENTS. IT IS THE OLDEST CLUB IN OUR SCHOOL.

The Falcon Zone **School Store** is a student driven retail establishment located in the commons area of the high school. Students from selected business classes operate the store on a daily basis to provide the student body, staff members and the community with school spirit merchandise. Profits generated by store sales are invested in merchandise expansion, charity organizations, and student scholarships. The store continues to grow and develop with the creative talents and motivation from the students who are enthusiastic in the entrepreneurial process.

The **Spanish Honor Society** inducts students each year who have maintained an 85%+ average in Spanish classes for three consecutive semesters and a clean discipline record. Inductees and inducted members participate in monthly meetings as well as fundraisers and activities including a Dance-a-thon. Students are eligible for inductee status as early as sophomore year and seniors may qualify for honor cords and scholarships.

Student Council is an extra-curricular club that helps students' share ideas, interests, and concerns within the school community. Members of Student Council promote school spirit and raise funds for school-wide activities, including social events and community projects.

The Monroe Township High School **Table Tennis Federation** is a new club dedicated to the sport of table tennis or ping pong. This club meets regularly in the Commons Area for free play ping pong with six active tables in constant use. Tournaments with prizes will be scheduled to see who is the Best-of-the-Best table tennis player. If possible, the club would like to schedule tournaments with clubs from other high schools. Be part of the process and join the club to plan its future or just to smash a ping pong ball across the net against your friends. Join us to share your love of the game or to learn how to play the game and in doing so have a lot of fun.

Technology Club - CNC Routing technology and Engineering Lab time are offered as Club! Whether it is learning how to create signs and other projects on the Robotic Router or how to process materials like sheet metal, wood, and even welding, Tech Club offers structured "Lab time" in the Engineering Lab.

The **Tri-M Music Honor Society** honors students for superior achievement in music and academics. Students who are invited to join must be a member of a performance-based music class at Monroe Township High School. All Tri-M members perform in an annual recital and must complete ten hours of music-related community service.

The **Yearbook Club** also functions as a class students sign up for as an all-year elective, and is available for students in grades 10-12. The purpose of the class/club is to create the yearbook for the school. The book includes highlights of the entire year, including ID pictures for each class, clubs, and sports, but it depicts in-depth the lives of the seniors at MTHS. Most students who enroll in the class are seniors because a student is only allowed to take the class once during the four years at MTHS.

The Young Science Achiever's Club is a science and technology oriented club. Students conduct science and technology oriented activities that make science an up close and personal experience. Past activities have included hands-on chemistry experiments for example investigating corrosion or metal reactivity, fast combustion reactions that go boom in a spectacular fashion, and the triple point of carbon dioxide, astronomy activities such daylight observation of the moon or sun, and physics activities like launching 2L bottle rockets or hydrogen and oxygen fueled micro rockets. The club also fundraises to pay for a spring bus trip to a science or technology destination like the American Museum of Natural History or the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. Join us to experience some thrilling science and plan our next trip to a thought provoking science or technology destination.

Youth and Government:

If you are interested in government and the law you should join Youth and Government!

Students write bills they wish were NJ State law and participate in a three-day overnight program where they engage in the legislative process, trying to get their bills passed "into law." The conference is student-run, with a student governor, cabinet, senate, assembly and judicial system. There are also press and lobbyist corps. This is one of the most rewarding and beneficial programs in the school for preparing for college.