

Dobbs Ferry High School

Co-Curricular Clubs (2022-23)

Grade-Level Class Advisory

Being part of a grade level advisory helps to unite the school and allows students to meet new people while planning school-wide events. Please contact the following grade-level advisors for more information:

- Freshman Class: (Ms. Ciccone: cicconem@dfsd.org)
- Sophomore Class: (Mr. Cox: coxj@dfsd.org)
- Junior Class: (Ms. Henry: henryj@dfsd.org)
- Senior Class: (Ms. Petruolo: petruolom@dfsd.org)

AcaFellas

Our AcaFella group consists of singers who perform old and new pop songs without instruments (“a cappella”). Rehearsals are before school from 7:30-8:10 on Thursdays. See Ms. DeFalco for more details (defalcog@dfsd.org)

Book Club

The Book Club is open to students in grades 9-12 and allows students to read and explore both contemporary and older texts based on interest. In doing so, students have an opportunity to discuss some of the themes presented in small learning communities. Please contact Mr. Falconetti (falconettit@dfsd.org) for more information.

Creative Writing Club

The Creative Writing Club is a group of student writers who meet weekly to develop their writing skills through exercises and peer editing. Students explore all different aspects of writing and get exposure to multiple genres and styles. Writers of all skill levels and interests are welcomed to join. The club meets in Room 202. Please contact Mr. Fischbeck (fischbecka@dfsd.org) for more information.

Political Debate Club

The Political Debate Club will foster participation and understanding of political and controversial issues. Students will build confidence in public speaking and be open-minded to current events and differing points of view. Students will also meet to practice public speaking, watch informative videos such as Tedx Talks and debate competitions, and engage in current events discussions as well as research and prepare their own debates and talks. The club meets in Room 207. Please contact Ms. Curran (currane@dfsd.org) for more information.

Destination Imagination

The goal of Destination Imagination (DI) is to foster creativity and problem solving among participants. Students prepare to compete regionally, state-wide, and globally for creative problem solving challenges. Please contact Ms. Henry (henryj@dfsd.org) for more information.

Ecology Club

The Ecology Club aims to promote conservation, recycling, "going green" and environmental justice.. Past activities include participation at the Saw Mill River clean up, gardening at Springhurst, organizing a school wide aqueduct clean up involving students and staff, and presenting at the Zero Waste Leadership Summit. In addition, we are actively involved in the recycling and composting initiatives at the Dobbs Ferry schools. The club will meet in room 311. Please contact Ms. Walerski (walerskij@dfsd.org) or Ms. Evans (evansk@dfsd.org) with any questions.

French Club

Students will have the opportunity to discuss French current events and special topics of interest, study French classic movies and music, help Francophone places in need (ex. Haiti, New Orleans), learn more about French foods (food sampling outdoors), engage in French conversation, possible correspondence with a school in France or Canada, and to explore any other student ideas or areas of interest. Please speak with Ms. Irvine irvinem@dfsd.org if you are interested!

FUNDraising Club

This club focuses on raising money, funds, goods, and awareness, for various charities, events, and current issues that students feel passionate about. The club meets the beginning of the school year and they discuss what charities and issues they would like to focus on each month. Some examples of past events include "no shave" November, ugly holiday sweater fundraiser for the Holiday Hustle, mud run, making bracelets for children at Blythdale Hospital, bake sales,

wearing blue for Diabetes awareness month, and a food drive to list a few. The club meets in Room 216. Please contact Ms. Wing (wingr@dfsd.org) for more information.

GSA

The Gender and Sexuality Alliance's (GSA) mission is to create a more accepting environment for all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, through education, support, social action, and advocacy. The club will meet in Room 207. Please contact Ms. Curran (currane@dfsd.org) for more information.

Gender Equality Club

The overall philosophy of the Gender Equality Club is to promote gender equality through discussion and education. Goals include reading articles, novels, and non-fiction works that promote individual and group awareness of contemporary issues that impact gender identity, discrimination, empowerment, representation, and equity. The club meets in Room 211. Please contact Ms. Addona (addonam@dfsd.org) for more information.

Habitat for Humanity

The goal of this club is to perform acts of kindness for others (peers, staff members, and community members). As a club, we will brainstorm ways to spread kindness and positivity to the school and community. The club will meet in room 287. If you are interested in joining the club, please contact Mrs. Swart (swartj@dfsd.org).

Hands-In DFHS (Service)

This club is designed to provide students at DFHS with an opportunity to “give back” to our local community through various service initiatives. Service learning experiences will be conducted both at school as well as in the Dobbs Ferry community! Please contact Ms. Fahy (fahym@dfsd.org) if you have any questions.

History Bowl

The History Bowl is a team history quiz competition played over four quarters each month. The goal of the club is to build students’ knowledge of history while enhancing communication and collaboration skills. Please contact Mr. Davis (davisr@dfsd.org) for more information.

High School Musical

Ever see a Broadway musical on stage or on film and wish you could be a part of it? This spring, the High School Vocal Music/Theater program will produce a spring musical, title to be announced. High school students in grades 9-12 may participate in the spring musical as an actor/singer/dancer and/or behind the scenes in theater tech and stage crew. Students wishing to perform on stage will be able to audition in January and if cast, rehearse from February to April for the full-scale spring musical. Please contact Ms. DeFalco (defalcog@dfsd.org) for more information.

Improv Club (formally the Drama Club)

The Improv Club is open to any student in Grades 9-12 who would like to learn improvisational theater skills and hone their acting skills. Improv is acting without a script and a great way to practice "thinking on your feet," a valuable skill in any field of work. Students will also learn how to speak clearly, project their voice, and feel comfortable getting up in front of others. The group will meet on Wednesdays in Room 209 Please contact Ms. Flaks for more information.

International Club

The International Club promotes understanding and appreciation for the many distinct cultural and ethnic groups in our school community and develops an understanding of the similarities and differences that exist between them in a positive, educationally-based way. The International Club typically meets bi-weekly during student lunch periods. The club meets in Room 109. Please contact Ms. Consiglio (consiglios@dfsd.org) for more information.

Mindfulness and Meditation Club

Social and emotional wellbeing is important for all members of our school community. Dobbs Ferry Schools are very aware of this and have been working on ways to promote well-being throughout the curriculum and day. Developing an understanding of Mindfulness and learning meditation techniques are key practices to achieving well-being and self-regulation through stressful and difficult times. The Mindfulness and Meditation Club will provide background knowledge on a variety of mindfulness and meditation techniques while providing a safe space for practicing mindfulness and meditation. The club meets in Room 109. Please contact Ms. Ravo (ravok@dfsd.org) for more information.

Music Appreciation Club

The Music Appreciation Club is open to all students who have an interest in sharing and exploring new music. We listen to all genres from classic rock of the 60's and 70's to

contemporary hip-hop. This is a place to expand your musical horizons. We meet twice a month in room 113. Please contact Mr. Falconetti (falconettit@dfsd.org) for more information.

National Honor Society (NHS)

The National Honor Society is not a co-curricular club in the usual sense. Students in NHS are nominated as second semester juniors based on their cumulative GPA. Nominated juniors must then undergo a rigorous nomination process that will look at the student's character, scholarship, service, and leadership --- the four tenants of the National Honor Society. Accepted students will serve as members of the NHS during their senior year. Please contact Mr. Cottingham (cottinghamj@dfsd.org) for more information.

“No Place for Hate” Club

The No Place for Hate Club focuses on promoting unity among all of our student body. Our goal is to make Dobbs Ferry High School students feel welcome and affirmed. This student led organization will launch activities and initiatives throughout the year to promote positive change in our school community. The goal of the club is to help our school maintain its status as a "No Place for Hate" school through the Anti-Defamation League. Please speak with Dean Scott Patrillo (patrillos@dfsd.org) if you are interested!

Octet

Octet is an eight member acappella singing group, by audition-only. New slots are available once an Octet member graduates. Not only has Octet won Gold Medals at NYSSMA singing competitions, but the group also performs at the high school music concerts, around the community, and at graduation. Octet meets Wednesday mornings from 7:30-8:10. Two girls sing each part (Soprano I, Soprano II, Alto I, and Alto II). In addition, there are 1-2 "swings"; members of Octet that learn multiple parts in the event that one member cannot attend a rehearsal or performance. A SWING is automatically in the Octet group the following year. Some songs that Octet has sung in the past include "Always Be My Baby," "And So It Goes," "For Good," "Built to Roam," "Somewhere Out There," "One Hand, One Heart," "Titanium," "White Winter Hymnal," and many more! Please contact Ms. DeFalco (defalcog@dfsd.org) for more information.

Peer Tutoring

The mission of the Peer Tutoring Club is to support students in Math, Science, English, Social Studies, or World Language by pairing them with a qualified peer tutor at least once a week. Peer tutors can earn community service credit for participating. The club meets in room 300a. Please contact Ms. Molz (molz@dfsd.org) for more information.

Sign Language Club

Members will learn basic conversational ASL (American Sign Language), about the deaf culture and various job opportunities for translators for the hearing-impaired. Students will also view clips from movies about the deaf (such as *Johnny Belinda*, *Man of a Thousand Faces*, *Mr. Holland's Opus*), learn to sign songs, and possibly visit a school for deaf/hearing-impaired children.. Please contact Ms. Brady(bradym@dfsd.org) for more information.

Student Government: Activities Branch

The charge of the Activities Branch is to promote school spirit, grade unity, and community within our school. This group organizes and runs MAC field day, spirit week, the pep rally, and decorates the gymnasium for MAC Day. The Activities Branch also supports and promotes other clubs and students raise money for a charity of their choice each year. The group meets during lunch and after school throughout the entire year. This might be the largest club in the school with approximately 80 members each year. Please contact Ms. Addona (addonam@dfsd.org) for more information.

Student Government: Legislative Branch

Members of the Legislative Branch are elected by their peers and serve for one year. The group meets on a weekly basis and discusses issues within the high school that impact student life. The club then prioritizes these issues and writes bills that are submitted to the school administration for review. The club is an excellent venue for students to work on important skills such as debate and bill writing. The club meets in Room 110. Please contact Mr. Meagh (meaghm@dfsd.org) for more information.

Television: Past and Present

Television programming has influenced America and the world since the second half of the 20th century. In as much as the time period has influenced programming, we have also seen that programs have influenced our society and culture. This club will analyze the periods of television programming while analyzing specific television episodes from throughout history in much the same way that film, novels and literature is examined. The club will be meet in Room 202. Please contact Mr. Fischbeck (fischbecka@dfsd.org) for more information.

WiS/STEM

The goal of this club is to increase the representation of women amongst the sciences and begin to shift deep-seated cultural views about who does STEM. It will also be a place to share a space for science passion with students. Possible fundraisers for all-girls schools, public STEM programs (coding workshops etc.), and education in general. Talks from teachers/scientists to

discuss their experiences being in a STEM field. Meetings are in room 285. Please contact Ms. Molloy (molloyd@dfsd.org) or stop by for more info.

World Language Honor Society

The World Language Honor Society is an induction of 11th grade students of Italian, Spanish and French. The induction ceremony takes place in May of junior year. Please contact Ms. Irvine (irvinem@dfsd.org) for more information.

Yearbook Club (Periauger)

The goal of the Yearbook Club is for students of all grades to work together to create a yearbook commemorating the graduating class. Club members can contribute to the development of the yearbook in a variety of manners, depending on their strengths and interests, including but not limited to formatting, organization, photography, writing, and illustration. Above all, the club is a fantastic opportunity for students to preserve their memories and collaborate in the creation of a keepsake to be cherished for years after graduation. The club meets in Room 200. Please contact Ms. Cairo (caiom@dfsd.org) or Ms. Newhouse (newhousea@dfsd.org) for more information.

Youth-to-Youth

The Youth-to-Youth Club focuses on raising awareness for mental health & wellness initiatives. We prioritize positivity, support, practicing self-care, and healthy decision making. There are many exciting things planned for the new school year. Please contact Ms. Blanch (blanchs@dfsd.org) if you have any questions.