

NPHS Student Activity Review 2019-2020



North Penn High School

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North Penn High School proudly offers more than 75 clubs and activities open to all students. Involvement in student activities plays an important role in a student's personal, social and academic growth. The broad range of opportunities provides a diversity of experiences for all students. Approximately 70 percent of the students are involved in at least one of the many activities offered at the high school.

Most activities are open to all students; however, some require auditions or other additional commitments or pre-requisites. The description of each activity indicates participation.

The purpose of this booklet is to provide a brief description of each activity and to encourage you to seek further information. Most school activities fall into one of the following categories: (1) athletics, (2) student government, (3) performance, (4) publications, (5) service and (6) special interest. Students have several opportunities to obtain first-hand information about the activities program.

All students have an opportunity to gain information during the NPHS Student Activities Fair which is held annually early in the school year. This year it is being held on Tuesday, September 10th and Wednesday, September 11th during lunches.

NPHS activities are classified as sanctioned or unsanctioned organizations. Sanctioned organizations comprise the vast majority of activities. They are authorized to meet with school district approval and with school-approved coaches and advisors. Unsanctioned activities are permitted to meet using school facilities, to advertise events in school and to be recognized for their involvement of North Penn students. Unsanctioned clubs and organizations either do not have an advisor and are student-initiated and directed or have an adult coach or advisor who is not sanctioned by or associated with the North Penn School District.

In the organization summary, all activities will be considered sanctioned, unless noted with a (UNS) for unsanctioned activity. Throughout the year, questions about the activities program should be directed to the athletic director's office or the coordinator of student activities office.

North Penn High School Activities

ACADEMIC DECATHLON: The Academic Decathlon Team represents NPHS in a challenging, ten-event scholastic competition at the regional, state, and national levels. The Academic Decathlon Team has competed successfully at all championship levels in recent years. The commitment is a demanding one, calling for extensive study in various academic fields. Participation in Academic Decathlon is designed to challenge academically talented students at all grade levels. Organizational meetings are held in the fall and spring. Frequent meetings are held from October-April after school about twice a week. Team members will need to commit to all competition weekends, and all club members will be expected to pay a one-time club dues.

ACCOLADE: The *Accolade* is the NPHS yearbook. Staff membership is open to any student who takes Magazine Journalism. Applications for student editor positions will be picked during the first month of school. Student staff members are graded according to their ability to meet deadlines and successfully create yearbook pages. The time demands placed upon staff members require a full-time commitment not only in the classroom, but after school and on weekends.

ADAPT: Academic Discussion And Peer Tutoring (ADAPT) is intended for academically accomplished students who wish to explore discussion of topics of interest in an informal setting, and who have a commitment to tutoring fellow students in a range of subjects. The group meets once a week for discussion and tutoring. Tutors also make themselves available during 9th periods to provide assistance to students as needed.

ADVANCED JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLUB: This club presents students with the opportunity to explore their interests in Japanese language and culture. Students learn about Japanese traditions and cultural events along with conversational phrases and vocabulary needed for such traditions and events. Bi-weekly meetings are held after school.

AFJROTC: JROTC is open to any student in grades 9-12 who is interested in getting involved and being part of a team. JROTC offers a multitude of opportunities to develop teamwork and leadership in your community. With involvement in over 100 events annually, students can participate as much as their schedule permits. The program is year-long, not seasonal which allows involvement as much or as little as you want. JROTC activities include: trips to collegiate and professional sporting events, visits to universities with ROTC programs, festivals, parades, usher duties for various events, off-site visits to training facilities, military flights, tours to museums and training experiences at various military installations. In addition, students have the opportunity to represent NPHS by competing in areas such as fitness, drill, Color Guard, Rifle and Unarmed exhibition as well as performing for the community, and the honor to present our nations Colors at various events for the playing of the National Anthem. Students plan and organize all events. To participate you must be enrolled in the JROTC class. Some events do NOT require students to wear a uniform.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN AWARENESS CLUB: The African-American Awareness Club (AAAC) is open to all NPHS students and offers them an opportunity for fellowship and to learn about African-American culture. The goal of the club is to create unity and maintain a positive voice in the high school community. The club also serves as a forum for sharing and learning about student experiences in school from a minority perspective. The AAAC participates in various volunteer programs as well as social activities both in the community and outside of the North Penn area. Club meetings are held at least once a month after school.

ANIMATION CLUB: Animation club is open to all NPHS students and offers an opportunity to learn about computer animation. Students in the club will collaborate within an animation team where project responsibilities will be broken up based on skill and interest. From concept development, storyboarding and character development, scene design and illustration, students will work together in a professional animation studio environment to create their own animated short.

ASTRONOMY CLUB: This club is open to all students interested in Astronomy. The club meets throughout the year and plans star-gazing activities in the evenings. They also plan events held within our high school's planetarium.

AUTO CLUB: The Auto Club provides students with an opportunity to discuss and explore all forms of transportation from past to present. The club organizes trips to competitions, expositions or social gatherings featuring various modes of transportation. The club sponsors events such as car shows and discusses methods of repair or modification of cars and trucks. Bi-weekly meetings are held after school. Members do not need to own a vehicle or have a driver's license to be in the club.

BADMINTON CLUB: The goal of badminton club is to foster friendship through the common interest of the sport. The club is open to all sophomores, juniors or seniors who are interested regardless of skill level. All members will have the opportunity to learn the sport as well as improve their skills with others who are also passionate about badminton. Club practices and tournaments will occur during 8B's and after school when the gym is available.

BENGALI CULTURAL CLUB: The Bengali Cultural Club focuses on the cultural celebrations, language and customs of Bengalis from India and Bangladesh. Students are given the opportunity to share and understand others' ideas and experiences and learn to deal with challenges faced in the United States. Monthly meetings are held after school.

BRASS ENSEMBLE: The Brass Ensemble is a musical performance group for students who play the trumpet, trombone, French horn and other brass instruments. Members of the ensemble are selected from the Wind Ensemble and membership ranges from 10-20 students per year. Rehearsals begin in November. The major focus of the ensemble is to provide seasonal music during the December holiday time.

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA: The NPHS Chamber Orchestra performs at special events for the school district and community. Practices are after school to prepare for these performances. Students are expected to practice individually to prepare for the ensemble.

CHAMBER SINGERS: The NPHS Chamber Singers are an ensemble of about 40-50 singers chosen by audition who rehearse after school twice each week preparing challenging music and performing numerous concerts throughout the year.

CHESS CLUB: Chess Club is composed of skilled and novice players. The purpose of the club is to attract students to the fascinating game of chess. Members meet after school to play and help each other improve their skills. Members visit other schools for meets and host meets at NPHS. The state championship is an attractive event for better players.

CHINESE CULTURAL CLUB: The Chinese Cultural Club is open to all NPHS students who have an interest in learning about or sharing their knowledge of the Chinese Culture. Throughout the course of the year, the club sponsors various social functions for the membership

and cultural awareness activities for the student body. The club meets monthly after school and welcomes new members.

CHORUS: Students have an opportunity to sing a variety of musical styles with a large group. Members meet during school hours and after school when rehearsing for school or community concerts throughout the year. No audition is necessary.

CHRISTIAN CLUB: This interdenominational club is open to anyone! The club provides opportunities for Christian fellowship and a deeper understanding of the Christian faith. Club activities include: community service, Bible study, prayer, worship, socials, fellowship and interaction with the student body. Weekly meetings are held Thursdays after school. [UNS]

CHRONIC AND INVISIBLE DISEASES CLUB (CIDC): In CIDC we talk about how to deal with the struggles a chronic or invisible disease causes in life. We discuss diseases as complex as Fibromyalgia or as simple as chronic migraines. The goal of this club is to make the existence of chronic and invisible diseases more known in the school community and to raise the general awareness of the prevalence of these diseases in everyday life.

CIAO (ITALIAN CLUB): The Cultural Italian American Organization offers all students the opportunity to learn about the Italian culture, music, food, art, language and history. CIAO activities include social gatherings, celebration of holidays and field trips. Meetings are held every other week.

CLASS CABINET: Each class has a cabinet which serves as the governing organization for class activities and fundraising. Sponsored activities include pep rallies, spirit days, proms, other dances and powder puff football games. Class cabinet members are appointed to their positions through an interview process and meet during Knight Time and after school. Most members are also involved in other school activities.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING CLUB: Learn to code, or expand your skills! This club is open to all students interested in learning computer programming. Both beginners and experienced programmers are welcome. The club meets once a week after school throughout the year.

CONCERT BAND/SYMPHONIC BAND: The concert band, comprised of woodwind, brass and percussion instrumentalists performs in holiday and spring concerts. Over 180 students participate. Rehearsals are held during the school day and some evenings. Interested students should contact the band director for further information.

CREATIVE ARTISTS (ART CLUB): Creative Artists gives students the opportunity to express themselves in a non-structured classroom and to produce artwork for student publications. Membership is open to all self-motivated students with an interest in the arts. Members will have time for other activities. Meetings are held twice a month after school.

DANCE TEAM: The NPHS Dance Team holds open auditions every year. The Dance Team allows students the opportunity to express themselves through the art of dance and to gain experience and confidence through observation and performance. Students have the opportunity to represent NPHS in area dance competitions.

DEMOCRATS CLUB: The NPHS Democrats Club is associated with High School Democrats of Pennsylvania (HSDPA). North Penn's chapter promotes activism, campaigning, and volunteering. This club is also a great way to make friends and get volunteer hours. With an abundance of food available at each meeting, we have a fun time while participating in discussions. Various speakers, from elected officials to campaign organizers, come to the meetings. Join us, and help to make a difference in our community!

ENACT (ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION): Our goal is to make North Penn a more sustainable community through education and action! Join us if you want to improve the wildlife habitat of our school nature center, do community outreach projects, and address conservation issues in our school. Our activities usually include field trips, community recycling days, a community Earth Day event, projects within the school, guest speakers and an environmental competition, in addition to our twice-monthly meetings.

EPICS: The Engineering Projects in Community Service (EPICS) Club is a design-based, service learning program that teaches students about engineering, computing and technology related fields while civically engaging them in their local communities. In the EPICS club, teams of students work together on projects that address the engineering and technology-based needs of community service and education organizations. The EPICS club is open to any NPHS student, regardless of technological skills or knowledge. Although the club is an engineering and design-based club; we encourage students from all backgrounds and perspectives to join.

FAMILY, CAREER and COMMUNITY LEADERS of AMERICA (FCCLA): FCCLA is an organization that helps young adults become leaders and addresses important personal, family, work and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences Education. It provides scholarship opportunities and promotes community involvement through chapter activities and national programs. Involvement in FCCLA offers members the chance to expand their leadership potential and develop necessary skills for life. It is a member of the state and nationwide chapters of FCCLA.

FANTASTIC FRIENDS: Fantastic Friends gives both the mentally challenged individuals and their peer buddies a chance to have positive social experiences. A High School Peer Buddy is a regular education high school student who commits for one academic year to a one-on-one friendship with a high school student who is mentally challenged. The Peer Buddy makes contact with their Fantastic Friend on a weekly basis and has a one-on-one outing each month.

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES: North Penn's FCA is initiated and led by anyone who is interested in reaching North Penn's students through a love of sports. As part of FCA's national organization, the purpose of campus ministry is to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with the lost and to grow and mature followers of Jesus. The "win" of campus ministry is to see campuses impacted for God through the influence of athletes and coaches.

FIDM: The Fashion Club is sponsored by the college, FIDM/Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising. Fashion Club is a national high school program whose members have one thing in common—they love fashion!! This club caters to students who take fashion courses at NPHS and want to spend extra time looking into fashion or students who aren't able to take the courses, but are still interested in fashion. It is also a great opportunity to meet people who share the same passion as you! Meetings are held monthly.

FRENCH CLUB: The French Club provides all interested NP students with the opportunity to celebrate holidays and share in authentic cultures, foods and traditions of the Francophone world. An annual food tasting and a World Cup soccer tournament are highlights of the club's planned activities. Meetings are held monthly after school.

FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS ASSOCIATION (FBLA): The goal of the FBLA is to provide additional opportunities for secondary students to learn to make intelligent career choices, develop business skills, appreciate community responsibility and strengthen their self-confidence. Students are offered several opportunities to compete at the district, regional and state levels in business-related skills. Monthly meetings are held after school. FBLA student members also operate the School Store and Knights Knutrition, the after-school, healthy snack stand.

GERMAN CLUB: The German Club (Deutschklub) provides activities, such as cooking German foods and playing German games, for interested students. The club meets on the last Thursday of the month. It supports the Aalen and Salzgitter exchanges and organizes the annual World Cup Soccer tournament. Visits are planned to German restaurants and the Christkindlmarkt in Philadelphia.

GIRL UP: With more than 1,000 clubs registered in 43 US states and 51 countries, Girl Up Clubs are champions for change. Girl Up Clubs have a huge impact on girls around the world, empowering both people in their own communities and adolescent girls in developing countries to rise up. Through education, fundraising, advocacy and service, Girl Up Club members develop the leadership skills necessary to make a positive difference in the lives of girls everywhere.

GOODWILL AMBASSADORS: The Goodwill Ambassadors is a club whose members are dedicated to performing random acts of kindness within the school community for students, faculty and staff. Membership is open to any student who enjoys helping or bringing a little joy to the life of others. Meetings are held once a month, in addition to completing projects throughout the month. Members also help with making students new to NPHS feel more "at home."

HAPPINESS CLUB: The goal of Happiness Club is to put a smile on the faces of students. By organizing projects to promote positivity, we hope to transform the school into a place people enjoy spending their time. Even small things can make a great difference in somebody's day

HEALTH PROFESSIONS CLUB: This club is open to any sophomore, junior or senior who is interested in pursuing a career in any of the medical allied health professions. Guest speakers will be invited to address the members and answer questions about careers in medicine, dentistry, nursing, veterinary medicine and similarly related fields. Increasing North Penn's awareness of health and well-being will also be a priority. Meetings are held monthly.

ICE HOCKEY CLUB: The Ice Hockey Club sponsors a team that competes in an interscholastic club league in southeastern PA. Tryouts for this team are held in April for the upcoming season. Weekly team practices begin in September. The team plays approximately 20 varsity and junior varsity games each season. The season begins in November and ends in March. Students are responsible for the cost of ice time, equipment and travel. [UNS]

IMC AIDES: Students interested in working in the Instructional Materials Center (library) donate one study hall per cycle to serve as an aide. Students shelve books and help with special projects. Membership is open and students are encouraged to participate.

IMPROV CLUB: This club helps train people who are interested in on the spot comedy. We typically play games that help improve each persons acting and character/scene development. The atmosphere of the club is very welcoming with people that help and guide new members as they develop their creative and comedic skills. Typically, every month the club performs shows in the local community starting in the second semester. Shows are optional for all members.

INDIAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION: The Indian Cultural Association offers all North Penn students the opportunity to learn of the heritage and many different cultures of India. The club promotes social events, educational activities and religious as well as cultural days that are celebrated in India. Meetings are held twice each month after school.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE: The North Penn International Exchange Program provides an international living-learning experience for high school students. Opportunities for exchange with “sister schools” in Germany, France, and Spain are available. These programs take the form of an entire school year and are available to qualified students. Interested students in grade 10 should contact the exchange student advisors to learn of specific program availability and requirements.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP CLUB: The IF Club is an organization dedicated to the furthering of international understanding among North Penn students. The club is involved with foreign exchange students coming to North Penn, American students interested in going abroad for a year or for a summer, and American families interested in hosting foreign students. Moderate dues help to defray costs of club activities. Meetings are held monthly on Thursdays throughout the year. Most members find they have time for participation in other school activities in addition to the IF Club.

JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLUB: This club, open to all North Penn students, is designed to introduce students to Japanese culture, language and customs. The club provides programs to display an assortment of animation from Japan, shown as both an art form and as entertainment. Club meetings are held at least once a month in addition to social and cultural activity programs.

JEWISH CULTURAL CLUB: The Jewish Cultural Club offers all North Penn students the opportunity to learn the heritage, culture and history of the Jewish people. Activities include social gatherings, celebration of Jewish holidays and guest speakers. Meetings are held monthly. [UNS]

KEY CLUB: Community service is the primary goal of the Key Club. The club is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Lansdale. Key Club is an international student-led organization which provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character and develop leadership. Caring-Our Way of Life. Membership in the high school chapter is open to students in 10-12 grade and moderate dues are an obligation. The students volunteer their time and energy on community service related activities from September through June (i.e.: festivals, community days, elementary school events, Boys and Girls Club tutoring, Easter Seals, toy drive, and UNICEF). Key Club meets on alternate Tuesdays at 6:45 pm in the Audion.

KNIGHT CRIER: The *Knight Crier* is NPHS’s online newspaper. Students act as reporters, editors, photographers and graphic artists. Their goal is to provide a public forum for student expression and feature news stories relevant to the school audience. Staff members must take the news journalism course.

KNIGHT RIDERS (EQUESTRIAN CLUB): The Knight Riders Club provides equestrians of NPHS with opportunities to meet to discuss their interests in different aspects of horseback riding as a sport or hobby. Programs include college and career opportunities, information on equine breeds, health and horsemanship. Offsite visits to riding competitions, training facilities, programs for handicapped riders and trail rides are planned activities.

KOREAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL SOCIETY: The Korean-American Cultural Society offers all North Penn students the opportunity to learn about Korean culture through social, academic and sports activities. Members are given the opportunity to share and understand others’ ideas and experiences from Korea and learn to deal with problems faced in the United States by assimilation to American culture. Monthly meetings are held after school.

LATIN CLUB: Latin Club provides many opportunities for interested (and not only Latin) students to explore and discuss areas of Greco-Roman culture and history beyond what can be covered in the classroom. The club meets frequently on a published schedule beginning in late September through March. Much club time is spent on preparing for a variety of competitive exams sponsored by national classical organizations, and include such topics as mythology, etymology, vocabulary, and ancient Roman culture. Dues are charged to cover examination costs. The club is open to all interested NPHS students.

MARCHING KNIGHTS: The Marching Knights perform in school and community events, as well as throughout the state and nation. Together, the band and band front include over 120 students. Participation requires rehearsals in August, as well as after school practices through November. Limited expenses include the cost of footwear, gloves and incidentals. Unless it is a trip year, the Marching Knights perform at every football game on Friday nights and compete every Saturday from September through November.

MARINE AND BOTANICAL SOCIETY: This club is open to all NPHS students. The marine portion of our club is concerned primarily with promoting, educating, and supporting any student projects that concern the aquarium hobby. The botanical portion of the club helps support student projects that deal with plants, gardens, and/or the environment. Students may take on any project they desire dealing with either or both fields and over the course of the year our club and its members will provide any backing necessary to make that project a success. In addition to individual projects, club members help manage the Greenhouse as well as the Fish and Coral Lab at NPHS. Our club holds plant and fish sales as a fundraising for future student projects.

MATHLETICS: Mathletics is open to all students interested in mathematics and problem solving. Through monthly contests sponsored by the Pennsylvania Math League (PAML) and the Atlantic/Pacific Math League (A/PML), students are given opportunities and exposure to math problems that they normally would not see in the classroom, but have the necessary skills to apply and solve the problems. The PAML allows the use of calculators while A/PML contests are topic-oriented and do not allow calculators. The contests are after school, consist of six questions each, and students have 30 minutes to work on the solutions.

MEN'S/WOMAN'S CHOIR: The Men's and Women's Choir are singing ensembles of about 40 members each, who rehearse and perform separately at school concerts. The ensembles will also occasionally combine for large community events.

MOCK TRIAL TEAM: The Mock Trial team competes against other high schools in tournaments sponsored by a local university and the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Students take on the roles of attorneys and witnesses as they advocate or testify in what looks and feels like a real trial. Competitive trials take place at the sponsoring university and in the Montgomery County Courthouse before actual Montgomery County judges. As students act, persuade, reason, analyze, and think on their feet, team members gain firsthand knowledge of our legal system.

MODEL AVIATION CLUB: The Model Aviation Club (MAC) is open to all students with an interest in radio controlled flight, regardless of flying experience or skill. At weekly meetings, members take a hands-on approach to learning the fundamentals of aviation through the building, flying, and often times crashing and repairing of model aircraft. The club owns many aircraft and flies them year round. For more information, visit www.northpenmac.org.

MODEL UNITED NATIONS CLUB: Model U.N. challenges students to learn about international issues in depth by researching specific topics from the perspective of selected countries. Club meetings include discussions on issues and planning for conferences in which students work as specific U.N. member delegations to develop and debate proposals with other delegations from different schools. Club members have the opportunity to attend one or two weekend conferences each year, sponsored by various college Model U.N. organizations.

MU ALPHA THETA (MATH HONOR SOCIETY): Mu Alpha Theta is a national math honor society with over 100,000 members in over 2,500 chapters across the United States. We challenge students to explore new topics of math, participate in team and individual math competitions, and give back to the community around us. We also promote interest in mathematics across the school and community! If you're interested in discovering a new way to look at math, winning competitions, and taking part in planning for fun activities such as pi-day, Mu Alpha Theta is right for you!

MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION (MSA): The Muslim Student Association is open to all students at NPHS. The club provides an opportunity for fellowship, scholarship and a deeper understanding of the Islamic Faith. As most activities listed, we conduct monthly meetings where current events and upcoming fundraisers are discussed and planned. We also facilitate open-forum discussions about issues affecting the immediate as well as the larger community. MSA participates in the MIST (Muslim Inter-Scholastic Tournament) competition yearly and we are proud to say that we have achieved many accolades in this city-wide competition. MSA is not exclusionary in any way and we welcome all to join us for an enriching cultural and religious experience. [UNS]

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY: The North Penn Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) consists of over 200 students in the junior and senior classes who have achieved a weighted cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 5.0 AND who have demonstrated worthiness of character, leadership in school and community activities, and service to the school and community. Students who wish to be considered for membership must pick up an application packet (available mid-September) from the advisor, complete all parts of the

application, and return it by the established due date. The application packet contains a form for students to complete where they can list their resume of activities along with signatures of verification from responsible adults.

The Faculty Council of the NHS reviews completed sets of credentials and selects the candidates who demonstrate that they meet all four established criteria (scholarship, leadership, service, and character) to be members of the National Honor Society. New members are formally welcomed into the NHS at a mandatory Induction ceremony held in late October.

There is a one-time payment of dues required each year of participation in the NHS, along with attendance at monthly meetings, participation in the chapter-wide fundraiser, participation in the all-chapter service project, and the completion of two additional individual service projects. The North Penn Chapter of NHS functions as a service organization within the school; it raises money for scholarships for senior NHS members, assists with the NPHS College Fair, and provides ushers and refreshments for various school activities. The society also provides help to various community groups upon request. Meetings are held monthly at 2:20 pm in the Auditorium at NPHS, and additional social and recreational activities are planned for members at various times during the school year.

NAVY AND COLUMBIA JAZZ BAND: The Navy and Columbia Jazz Bands are two musical organizations that participate in concerts and "big band" jazz festivals. Auditions are held in November and rehearsals take place twice each week beginning in January. The Navy and Columbia Jazz Bands are active from January through May. Membership usually includes 18-22 musicians in each organization.

NORTH PENN STARS: North Penn STARS (Science, Technology and Research Students) is a group of students who develop, research and run experiments on topics in various science disciplines. Students work independently of the student curriculum. Research projects are presented at local, regional and international competitions.

NORTH PENN TELEVISION CLUB (NPTV): The North Penn Television Club is open to any student with interest in and commitment to working on projects consistent with the following two club purposes: the opportunity to have "hands-on" experience in television areas such as broadcast journalism, script writing, video production, on-air performance and video editing. Students will also work with the production and broadcasting of locally originated programming which is of interest to NPSD and the North Penn community. Involvement will include times during the school day, after school and some evenings. NPTV is broadcast on Comcast Cable 28/Verizon FIOS 29.

NP MAVENS: The NP Mavens are a group of students that work with elementary schoolers as mentors, providing them with fun and enriched activities to participate in. We volunteer across the school district, where our members mentor children while their parents take part in activities planned by the district.

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND: Students that participate in Odyssey of the Mind (OotM) write skits, create props and design costumes. Depending upon the chosen problem, the solution might also involve designing vehicles, creating technical devices or building balsa wood structures. Teams choose a long-term problem and spend months creating a solution. Teams work within the requirements and cost limit stated in the problem they choose. Team members generate all the ideas for their solution and do all the work themselves without influence

from students or adults outside the team. Adult coaches facilitate the team. Teams attend a regional competition and are scored according to how well their solution meets the stated requirements. Teams that place first or second at the Regional competition advance to the State competition. Teams that place first or second at the State competition advance to World Finals where they compete against OotM teams from across the nation and around the world.

ORCHESTRA: The North Penn Orchestra performs at school and community functions throughout the school year and special practices after school hours are scheduled prior to a performance. Members of the orchestra are eligible to audition for the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) district, regional and all-state orchestras.

PEOPLE VERSUS POVERTY: The People Versus Poverty Club is dedicated to playing an active role in the global fight against poverty. We are determined to make an impact in our community and other parts our world by making small contributions that amount to a bigger difference. Our club is active in collaborating with organizations through fundraising and volunteering. Members will be part of a positive community that promotes growth and self-esteem.

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE: The percussion ensemble is a selected group of students who perform in competitions throughout the winter and spring. Auditions are usually held in November. Evening rehearsals are scheduled. A wide range of percussion and auxiliary instruments are included in the ensemble. Interested students should contact the band director in early November.

POLITICAL ACTIVISM CLUB: This club is open to all students who are interested in discussing politics and current events. The club meets monthly after school, where students hold lively discussions with their peers about the important political issues in our society. The club provides an outlet for students to become involved in the political arena, including holding a voter registration drive for North Penn students.

RAINBOW ALLIANCE: The Rainbow Alliance works to make North Penn a safer and more inclusive school community. The goal is for all students to be able to bring their whole selves to school regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. In working to raise awareness, the Rainbow Alliance's activities include guest speakers, social events, educational workshops and school-wide activities.

READING OLYMPICS CLUB: This club is open to all North Penn students who enjoy reading and desire to compete in the Montgomery County Reading Olympics. The club meets once each month after school to prepare for competition and discuss readings.

SALSA: The Spanish and Latino Student Association (SALSA) is open to all North Penn students. SALSA's main purpose is to explore and promote the Hispanic culture through its language, customs, holidays and entertainment. SALSA is a place for students to explore Hispanic culture and heritage as well as an organization where they can learn about the many Spanish-speaking countries of the world. Monthly club meetings are held after school.

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD: Science Olympiad provides opportunity for members to compete at the regional, state and national levels on science problems and projects on a range of topics including genetics, earth science, chemistry, anatomy, physiology, physics, geology, mechanical engineering and technology. Membership requires regular attendance at meetings, a commitment to intensive independent study, and to attendance at practice and competition events. From the membership, a

team of 15 participants will be selected to represent NPHS in Division C competition in the Spring.

SIMULATION GAMING SOCIETY (SGS): SGS is a gaming club that provides members an organized structure in which fantasy games can be played. Role playing games (RPG's) like Dungeons and Dragons and fantasy strategy/tradeable card games like Magic: The Gathering, are the two most popular games that are played but other games are always welcomed. Meetings are held weekly after school.

SKI & BOARD CLUB: The Ski & Board Club provides students with an opportunity to meet with classmates who share an interest in skiing and snowboarding, and travel together to some noteworthy notch east coast ski resorts. Meetings are held once each month in the evening. This year's destinations may include trips to Stowe, Jay Peak, and Killington, Vt.; and local PA mountains. Annual dues are charged to help defray the cost of special trips.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS: Special Olympics is a sports training program for disabled individuals. NPHS athletes train in basketball, aquatics and track and field. A unified program, which enables non-disabled students to compete with Special Olympians, is also available. Opportunities are available to work with Special Olympics athletes during training.

SPIKEBALL CLUB: The Spikeball Club is a club in which students come together to play Spikeball with one another. The club is open to any student at North Penn, and will hold tournaments throughout the year that any student, whether part of the club or not, can participate in. From new players to expert players, the club is a great way to meet new people, have fun playing Spikeball, and hang out with friends. The club provides the Spikeball sets that will be used.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION: The Student Government Association (SGA) is an organization through which students may express their opinions and assist in the administration of school enterprises. The SGA is divided into two houses. Ten senators per grade are elected on an at-large basis. Senate meetings are held every two weeks. Senators serve on major committees. Members of the House of Representatives are elected in Knight Time and serve for one semester. A second election for second semester representatives is held in February. SGA meetings are held twice a month during Knight Time. Cabinet members (appointed by the officers each spring) attend all meetings and events. SGA is a diverse organization which plans school-wide activities, promotes scholarships and educational programs, promotes community service opportunities and recognizes student and staff accomplishments. Its committees are open to all students throughout the year.

TABLE TENNIS CLUB: The Table Tennis Club (formerly Ping Pong Club) is a fun way to get to know other students at North Penn while playing table tennis! From novice to expert players, club members play after school (usually 1-2 evenings a month) and participate in tournaments. Typically, students bring their own paddles, and the club provides table tennis balls; however, extra paddles are usually available, so come play!

THEATRE: Each year, NPHS Theatre produces two shows, one in the fall and one in the spring. Generally, it produces one drama and one musical. Participants are interested in all aspects of theatre including acting, singing, dancing, carpentry, lights, sets, sound, costumes, make-up, and production. Participation requires a great deal of commitment, especially as each show approaches, but the well-organized student can find plenty of time for involvement in other activities. Auditions are open to all.

THESPIAN TROUPE #5464: The NPHS Thespian Troupe is a member of the International Thespian Society. This club is for those interested in all aspects of theatre. General membership meetings are held monthly. In addition, the troupe does community service theatre activities which include participation in community events. Members are also involved in raising money for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, sponsor ribbon sales and an annual Knight of the Arts to support this cause. Thespians are also able to compete at State and International Thespian Festivals. Time commitment varies according to the activities in which the member is involved, and range from a few days a month to almost daily involvement.

TROUBADOUR: The Troubadour is the on-line student literary magazine of NPHS. The Troubadour staff selects and publishes original art, photography and creative writing done by North Penn students. Meetings are held Wednesdays after school throughout the school year. There are no dues or expenses, and students may join at any time. Student staff members select material from their own pieces as well as from those which are submitted. Members challenge each other with writing prompts and discuss each other's writing. Staff members also lay-out, format, and edit the work for the website.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE—COED: Varsity and junior varsity teams are offered for grades 9 to 12. No team cuts are made. Practice begins the first Monday in March and held four days a week including Saturdays. Games/tournaments are primarily on Saturdays with some held after school on weekdays. Season ends with Regional and State Championships in late May.

VARIOUS VOICES: This organization is open to all students and is designed to make members of the student body and community aware of the history of women and the issues surrounding all individuals in society. This women's issues-oriented club promotes their goals through the arts, seminars, forums, exhibits and assemblies. The organization plays a major role in the high school's March celebration of Women's History month. The club meets twice each month after school.

VISUAL ENSEMBLE: This ensemble combines choreography, movement and theatre in performances. Membership is determined by audition in November with weekly rehearsals beginning thereafter. Competitions are held on weekends beginning in February. Students interested in auditioning should contact the band director in early November for further information.

WIND ENSEMBLE: Membership is comprised of brass, woodwind and percussionists selected by audition. In addition to being a scheduled class, a limited number of after school/evening rehearsals are held. Concerts are performed throughout the school year. Interested instrumentalists should contact the band director in January for the next year.

YOUTH EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (YEA): Students who are interested in education, career exploration, school and community service, and leadership development are encouraged to join YEA. Activities include meetings once a month, which include planning activities for children's events and community service projects. Some opportunity for those interested in the teaching profession is provided through a teacher shadowing day. YEA projects are based on ideas generated by club members. It is part of the statewide organization, Pennsylvania Youth Education Association.

North Penn High School Fall Sports

CHEERLEADING: The cheerleading squad promotes school spirit at athletic events, as well as at school and community functions. Cheerleaders participate in pep rallies, clinics and competitions. Tryouts and final selections are held in May. Squad practices will be announced. Cheerleading is considered a year-long sport, not a seasonal activity.

CROSS COUNTRY—BOYS | CROSS COUNTRY—GIRLS

Varsity and junior varsity teams are available for students in grades 9 to 12. No team cuts are made. Summer practice begins on the third Monday in August. During the school year, practices are held every day after school until 5:30 pm. Meets are held on Wednesdays and Saturdays with the season ending on the first Saturday in November.

FIELD HOCKEY—GIRLS: Field hockey includes varsity and junior varsity teams. Team cuts are usually necessary. Summer practice begins on the third Monday in August. During the school year, practices are held every day after school until 5:30 pm. There are several Saturday practices and games with the season ending in mid-October.

FOOTBALL—BOYS: Varsity, junior varsity and sophomore football teams are available. Squad cuts are made. Sophomores can play on any of the teams. Summer practice begins on the third Monday in August. During the school year, practices are held every day after school. Games are held on Friday nights in addition to several Saturday afternoon games with the season ending in late November/early December.

GOLF—COED: Varsity and junior varsity teams are available and team cuts are necessary. Practice begins the third Monday in August with a practice or match each school day. The home course is PineCrest Golf Club, and the season ends in October.

SOCCER—BOYS: Soccer includes varsity and junior varsity teams. Team cuts are usually necessary. Summer practice begins on the third Monday in August and three practice sessions are held daily. During the school year, practices are held every day until 5:30 pm. The season ends in late October.

SOCCER—GIRLS: Soccer includes varsity and junior varsity teams. Team cuts are usually necessary. Practice begins the third Monday in August and is held every day after school until 5:30 pm. The soccer season ends in late October.

TENNIS—GIRLS: Varsity and junior varsity teams are offered for grades 9 to 12. Summer practice begins on the third Monday in August. There are some Saturday matches scheduled for varsity players with the season ending in late October.

VOLLEYBALL—GIRLS: Varsity and junior varsity teams are offered for grades 9 to 12. Team cuts are made. Summer practice begins on the third Monday in August. Practices and games are held after school or during evening hours.

WATER POLO—BOYS | WATER POLO—GIRLS: Varsity and junior varsity teams are offered for grades 9 to 12. Summer practice begins on the third Monday in August. The season ends the first weekend in November. During the school year, matches are held on weekdays and Saturdays.

North Penn High School Winter Sports

BASKETBALL—BOYS: Basketball includes varsity and junior varsity teams and team cuts are necessary. Beginning the third Friday in November, practice is held every day after school and every Saturday morning. Most games are held at night and during winter holidays with the season ending in late February.

BASKETBALL—GIRLS: Varsity and junior varsity teams are offered and team cuts are made. Beginning the third Friday in November, practice is held every day after school until 5:30 pm and Saturday mornings. Most games are held at night and during the winter holidays. The season ends late February.

BOWLING—COED: Bowling includes varsity and junior varsity teams for grades 9 to 12. Practice begins in early December and the season ends in February.

SWIMMING/DIVING—BOYS | SWIMMING/DIVING—GIRLS
Boys and girls teams are offered for grades 9 to 12. There is a strong possibility that team cuts must occur during the first week of practice. Practice is held at least three mornings during the week, every day after school, and once on Saturdays. Practice and meets are held over the Thanksgiving and winter vacations. Swimmers and divers qualifying for District and State championships continue into March.

UNIFIED BOCCE: Unified Bocce is a PIAA sponsored sport. The team is comprised of students with intellectual disabilities (athletes) and without disabilities (partners). Unified Bocce has 16 roster spots available which are then split into two teams. Each team will have with 4 athletes and 4 partners. The team practices Tuesdays after school with elective practices occurring during the school day through the week. Practice will start in the beginning of December with the roster being set prior to winter break. The season is completed in the middle to the end of March.

WINTER TRACK—COED: Practice begins the third Friday in November. Practice will be held every day after school until 5:30 pm for students in grades 9 to 12. Meets are held at area college field houses on Friday nights or Saturdays with the season ending the last Saturday in February.

WRESTLING—BOYS:

Varsity and junior varsity wrestling teams are offered for grades 9 to 12. No team cuts are made. Practice begins the third Friday in November and is held every day after school until 5:30 pm. Meets are held on weeknights and Saturdays with the regular season ending in late February.

North Penn High School Spring Sports

BASEBALL—BOYS: Baseball includes varsity and junior varsity teams, cuts are necessary. Practice begins on the first Monday in March every day after school until 5:30 pm, with some Saturday practices and games. The season ends late May.

LACROSSE—BOYS: Varsity and junior varsity teams are available for grades 9 to 12. Team cuts are usually necessary. Practice begins in early March and is held every day until 5:30 pm and Saturday mornings. Games are played weekday afternoons and several Saturdays. The season ends late May.

LACROSSE—GIRLS: There are varsity and junior varsity lacrosse teams and team cuts are made. Practice begins the first Monday in March and is held every day after school until 5:30 pm and some Saturday mornings. The lacrosse season ends late May.

SOFTBALL—GIRLS: Varsity and junior varsity softball teams are available, and team cuts are necessary. Practice begins the first Monday in March and is held every day after school until 5:30 pm, with optional Saturday practices. The regular season ends in late May.

TENNIS—BOYS: Varsity and junior varsity teams are available for grades 9 to 12. Practice begins the first Monday in March and is held every day after school until 5:30 pm, with some Saturday practices and games. The season ends in late May.

TRACK—BOYS | TRACK—GIRLS: Varsity team available for grades 9 to 12. Practice begins the first Monday in March and is held every day after school until 5:30 pm. Meets are on Tuesdays and Saturdays and the season ends in late May.

UNIFIED TRACK & FIELD: Unified Track and Field is a branch of Special Olympics that allows students of all abilities to practice and compete together in County and State Competitions. Practices begin in March and the season runs through May

VOLLEYBALL—BOYS: Varsity and junior varsity teams are offered for grades 9 to 12, and team cuts are made. Practice begins the first Monday in March and is held every school day. Games are held after school or at night with the season ending in May.