

SMS CLUBS BULLETIN

Editor in Charge: Renee Plessner, VP Communications

In an effort to enhance communications between the school and parents, the PTA will be posting a quarterly supplement highlighting the goals, activities, and accomplishments of the various clubs at SMS. Our purpose is to inform the parents and SMS community of the exciting and enriching activities in which the students are involved, and what they are learning from their participation in the varied after-school activities.

The PTA Club Supplement featuring some of the wonderful and exciting clubs/after-school activities at SMS will be posted quarterly. There are so many fascinating clubs to choose from. Our children can be involved in a different activity every day of the week! Please peruse the club highlights below and encourage your children to get involved. We thank the club advisors for their cooperation.

SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions):

Advisors: Ellen Goltzer and Dee Elzer

The SADD organization gives students the realization that they have the power to protect life, and insure the quality of their own lives and that of their peers. It helps students realize that they have the power to defeat those elements that are destructive to a healthy and productive life. We try to instill this idea in the students and hope that they maintain it in their future. Some activities include: Inside-Out Day: Theme - Don't turn your life inside out with drugs. Friendship Day: Theme - Friends watching out for friends. Annual School Assembly (All Grades): Theme - To promote positive decision making. Our enrollment is kept open, meaning that anyone is welcome to come to any meeting throughout the school year. The year-end celebration activity is limited to active members. We meet the first Monday of each month as our full club meeting. During the month we also meet with the students after school and during lunch periods. In addition, there are separate meetings for club officers.

SUNDANCE AT SOUTH:

Advisor: Kristen Klein

Our Monday afternoons are filled with glue, string, staples, and cardboard...lots of cardboard. Inspired by the movie The Astronaut Farmer, one club member wanted to build a space module like the one Billy Bob Thornton uses to launch himself into space. The focus of our club is now building this main prop in order to film small clips of re enactments from the film. This is a student-driven and -run operation; the club members have the vision and they are ones who call the construction shots. We are anxious to see what finally materializes after all of the members' hard work!

GTV - THE MOVIE CLUB:

Advisor: Ellen Goltzer

GTV is a club that meets every Wednesday after school where students can spend time watching movies, film clips, tv shows and more that focus on teen issues. It's concentrates on situations that deal with their needs, concerns and choices. Guided discussions follow each presentation.

THE PEER HELPERS CLUB:

Advisor: Amy Goldin

The club meets after school on Tuesdays & Thursdays, and during lunch for sixth and seventh graders. The seventh graders have written and will be performing short skits that will be aired on the morning news show. The seventh graders, who have been training for over a year, have been helping to prevent and intervene in situations where bullying may be likely to occur. They are also ready to begin meeting with classmates who would like to talk to a peer helper. This will be presented to students on the morning news show. If a seventh grader wants to meet with a peer helper, they will sign up in the guidance office, and will get a pass to come during their lunch period on Thursdays. Sixth grade peer helpers are busy learning communication and problem solving skills, as well as anti-bullying techniques.

JUST FOR GIRLS CLUB:

Advisor: Margo Christofer

Every Tuesday, after school, room 215 is barred to any male at SM. This is because JUST FOR GIRLS is in session. As a Health Education teacher, I founded this club to promote a comfortable place where girls of different or similar backgrounds, sizes, personalities, and intelligences could meet, hang out and have fun. Some examples of our activities have included edible facials, yoga, t-shirts design, movies, hoola hoop/dance contests and table manners. Now in its fifth year, Just For Girls membership has varied. It is particularly suited to 6th graders who are not yet involved with organized sports, would like to meet new friends in a nonjudgmental setting and just be themselves. (an accomplishment which I believe is achieved through consistent attendance) I'm often asked why there isn't a JUST FOR BOYS CLUB? Sorry, guys, new members are always welcome at any time and refreshments are served but just not to you!

MIDDLEVIEW:

Advisor: Kristen Klein

The third edition is in the process of being finalized and the fourth edition is now in the process of being created. Each Tuesday and Wednesday, students from all grades come to the computer lab to brainstorm, draft, and revise their articles. Keep an eye out for the finalized third edition at the end of March and the fourth edition in May. We are always working to collect the latest news!

GARAGE BAND:

Advisor: Anthony Virgilio

Here is some information about what The Composers Club at Great Neck South Middle School has done, and is going to do next. We just finished up our third annual composition competition. During the competition each student (club member) composed a music composition using Garage Band. Two winners will be announced next Tuesday during the club. In addition to that all students will receive their very own CD of all the student compositions that were in the competition. The Garage Band Composers Club meets every Tuesday (all year) after school in room 806. All students are welcome to join at any point during the year. Our next project will be a remixing project where students will get the chance to work with famous rock, and pop songs first hand!

ART CLUB:

Advisor: Karla Krupala

The club Meets every Tuesday at 3 pm in room 212. It is open to all 6th, 7th and 8th graders with a special interest in arts and crafts. Projects include bookmaking, jewelry making, papier mache and much more. Currently, the art club is finishing up our work on clay animals. The animals are in the kiln waiting to be fired. We are eagerly awaiting spring, to begin tie dying and other spring related crafts.

6th GRADE LOUNGE:

Advisor: Sandy Cooper

The purpose of the lounge is to provide 6th graders a safe, comfortable and productive place to socialize and de-stress from the week of work. By having it open to only 6th graders, the environment is less intimidating and offers an opportunity for kids to meet new 6th graders or to hang out with friends from the other team who they don't see much during the day. Additionally, it is a good peer working and studying environment, especially before big exams or before due dates on tough projects. It is a revolving door - kids come when they can.