

Belvidere Clubs & Organizations



Art Club	Jazz Ensemble
Art Elite	Kare Club
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Band Council	Mariachi Club
Best Buddies	Math Team (Needs an advisor)
Bucs Abroad	Multicultural Club
Color Guard	Musical Pit Orchestra
Culinary Club	National Honor Society
Debate (Needs an advisor)	Pep Band
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FCA-Fellowship of Christian Athletes (Needs an advisor)	RC Club
FFA	Renaissance
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Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) Club	Scholastic Bowl
German Club (Needs an advisor)	Science Olympiad (Needs an advisor)
Health and Medicine Club	Spanish Club
Illinois Music Honor Society	Student Council
Improv Team	Teen Library Council (TLC)
International Thespians Society	Zines (Formerly Zigs)

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Spanish Club

Advisor: [Mrs. Lopez Vargas](#) (Room 202) - Mrs. Lopez-Varga

In the Spanish club, we will use language to explore different s cultural practices, perceptions, and products throughout the Spanish-speaking world. We do so by watching movies, going on field trips, and many other different things! Spanish Club is great for exploring language and culture while making new friends!

Medical Club

Advisor: [Ms Beach, Rm 108](#)

We meet every Wednesday right after school, in Rm 108 (across from Cafeteria). The club will be learning about different opportunities in the medical field. We have medical/veterinary type speakers after school and do some field trips to local health care facilities. These meeting days and times may vary with scheduling and availability. Please keep checking our bulletin board located outside Rm 108 for updated information on meetings and activities, and scholarships.

National Honor Society

Advisors: [Mrs. Nejman](#) Rm 40

The National Honor Society is based on the four pillars: Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character. There is an application process in order to get inducted. Applications come out in January. We meet 1-2 times a month and do many service projects in our school and community.

Today, it is estimated that more than one million students participate in NHS activities. NHS chapters are found in all 50 states, US Territories, Canada, and around the world. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service. For more information check out the link <https://www.nationalhonorsociety.org/>

FFA

Advisor: Mrs. Gustafson-Morelock, room 106

FFA is a co-curricular organization that is open to all students enrolled in an agriculture course at Belvidere High School, in accordance with state guidelines. The organization is available to students in all grade levels, from freshmen to seniors. FFA is a student-led organization that provides opportunities for career exploration, leadership development, and personal growth through a variety of events, including competitions, leadership conferences, and community service projects. Chapter meetings and activities are held regularly, ranging from multiple times a week to monthly, depending on the season and event schedule. While FFA is rooted in agricultural education, students do not need to have a background in farming or agriculture to join—just an interest in developing valuable life and career skills through hands-on learning and active participation.

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DECA

Advisor: [Myah Carroll](#), rm 208

DECA is a large international club with a mission to prepare emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for our future workforce. All students regardless of their career interest are allowed to join DECA. Students have a blast making friends, while attending a range of activities from go-kart competitions against other local chapters to competing in academic events that can lead them to State and National competitions. DECA is an excellent club to add to a college application or job resume. There are dues for this club depending on fundraising and if students wish to compete. For more information, please check out the DECA website at www.deca.org.

Multicultural Club

Advisors: Ms. Ortiz-Rendón and Maria Delgado Garcia, Room 211

The Multicultural Club's goal is to provide members with an opportunity to explore their own culture and learn an appreciation of other cultures. Through group and student showcases, field trips, participation in seminars, and discussions, members are given the opportunity to explore and experience the customs and individualism of all cultures at Belvidere High School and its community.

Debate

Advisor: **OPEN**

Debate is an Illinois High School Association-sanctioned activity. After learning debate skills through games and practice, the BHS team competes against other schools in northern Illinois to earn recognition and then participate in the state tournament. Along the way, you learn skills that can help you in many career fields, including law, business, even politics. We are looking for team members who have good logic and reasoning skills that can also write and speak effectively.

Art club

Advisor: Mrs. Reints

Art club is a creative bunch of students who enjoy looking at and creating art. You do not have to be in an art class or good at drawing to be in art club:) You should be interested in artistic collaboration and having fun! You can be involved in other clubs and still be a member of art club.

Art Elite

Advisor: Mrs. Reints

Art Elite is for students who have been in art club for at least one year and have an interest in further developing their artistic, creative, and collaborative skills. This is a separate group from art club but will help run and plan art club meetings. This group has a heavier focus on commercial arts including competitions, murals, conventions, etc.

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Student Council

Advisor: Miss Sanders & Mrs. Schelonka

Student Council plans several school-wide events, such as Homecoming, Teacher Appreciation Week, the district-wide Talent Show, Blood Drives, Winter Formal, and spirit days. Our goal is to create an inclusive environment for students to build leadership skills by leading their class and events that celebrate staff and students! If you would like to be involved in these school functions and meet some great people, Student Council would be an excellent choice for you and your friends! Meetings are in the Forum Room every Tuesday at 7:30AM.

Prom Committee:

Advisor: Miss Sanders

Meetings are on the third Tuesday of each month and begin at 3:25 PM. The committee is responsible for fundraising, planning, selling tickets, and decorating for Prom!

Renaissance

Advisors: Mrs. Full & Mrs. Smith

The purpose of this club is to change the climate of the school from the students' perspective focusing on character, connections, and celebrations. Students come up with ideas to improve the climate of the school and work together to implement those ideas. Some examples include a Renaissance assembly, putting positive notes on lockers, recognizing faculty and staff, and giving out high-fives for "High-Five Friday." Students also worked really hard to improve the courtyard for students to use throughout the day. Teachers can take classes outside and any student who holds a current Renaissance card can eat lunch outside.

Culinary Club

Advisors: Mrs. Raap and Ms. Chomko

The purpose of this club is to give students an extra culinary opportunity and experience outside of a foods class or home.

You do not need experience although it is welcomed!

Our activities include:

- Participating in NHS Haunted Hallways, Eggstravaganza
- Community service opportunities-food bank volunteering
- Meeting new friends
- Extended culinary experience

Illinois Music Honor Society

Advisors: Mr. Costabile & Mr. Miller

Description: ILMHS is a National Honor Society for student musicians in Illinois. This activity opens up a world of opportunities for students who have already shown themselves to be academically capable and musically gifted. Through performance and community service, they'll develop confidence,

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creativity, critical thinking, compassion, and a host of other leadership skills sure to serve them well in school and beyond.

Activities include: Developing outreach music performances for the community, organizing a philanthropic event to help further music education, planning social development outings for the music programs, and attending program planning meetings.

International Thespians Society/ formerly Drama Club

Troupe Director: Mr. Reilly

The Thespian troupe is a subset of the theatre arts program. It is the student honor society (International Thespian Society), a separate student organization, and membership is earned. Any student may be a member of the theatre program, but only students who have been officially inducted and registered with the EdTA national office are members of the theatre program *and* the International Thespian Society. Students who have been involved in theatre at BHS and earn 10 points to be inducted into the troupe. Students are usually inducted in the fall and spring.

Improv Team

Coach: Mr. Reilly

Improv team is an auditioned group of students who learn and practice the art of improvisation. Modeled off of The Second City, our team practices improv games and situational comedy. We perform 1-2 shows per year. One of the best ways to learn is by experience. Students on this team are coached to put themselves in situations that will help them learn to be the best person they can be in college, career, and in life.

Teen Library Council (TLC)

Advisor: Mrs. Brunschon (Library/Media Director)

TLC is an opportunity to create and shape the look, feel and direction of the library space, collection and programs. We talk about anything that tells a story. We are looking for a variety of people to make the vision for BHS library come alive. LibraryCon is our big event every year, but we also do book clubs and programming ideas as well. Sometimes we just hang out and talk books, movies, shows, comics, and life in general. Meet Wednesdays right after school until 4:15 in the library.

Key Club International

Advisor: Kaylea Chomko

International club known for leadership, character building, and community service. Our purpose is to serve our local, state, national, and global community through planned projects, volunteering

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opportunities, and aiding those who are in most need. All students are welcome! Our meetings take place in room 116 on Tuesdays after school.

Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) Club

Advisor: Dr. Rodriguez

We are creating a safe place for LGBTQ students and their friends/allies. We primarily have a place to socialize and to feel understood. Activities will include games, movies, arts & crafts, etc.

B-Club

Advisors: Mr. McNames and Ms. Johnson

B-club is for our athletes here at BHS. Our purpose is to help promote our athletic programs through community service and school-wide projects.

Best Buddies

Advisors: Mr. Ries, Mrs. Walbaum, and Mr. Wesselhoff

The main goal of Best Buddies is to have our Special Needs Students interact with students in the school. Every month we will meet as a group to decide what activities we could do to build friendships within the school. This could be a simple greeting before class, having lunch together, and special activities designed to build one-to-one friendships.

FCA-Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Advisor: OPEN

FCA focuses on serving local communities around the globe by engaging, equipping, and empowering coaches and athletes to unite, inspire and change the world through character building.

Musical Pit Orchestra

Advisor: Mr. Costabile

Every year the BHS Performing Arts department puts on a musical production, combining live music, singing, and acting on stage. The Pit Orchestra is responsible for the live music and is an essential part of that production. Instrumentation changes based on the show and is commonly made by students within the band department. However, we are always looking for people who play piano, bass, guitar, or a string instrument to join us in our shows. For more information please contact Mr. Costabile.

Jazz Ensemble

Advisor: Mr. Costabile

Jazz Ensemble is a co-curricular activity, meaning students in Jazz Ensemble also take a class to learn how to play their music, understand the jazz genre of music, and learn to improvise and transcribe music. This premiere ensemble performs at community events, concerts, and competes at Jazz festivals in the Chicago region. Jazz Ensemble is an audition based group with limited seats

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based on instrumentation, but we are always looking for new talent, especially if you have experience on Bass, Piano, and guitar. Please contact Mr. Costabile if you have questions or would like to audition to join.

Band

Advisor: Mr. Costabile

Band is co-curricular activity, meaning students in the band also take a class to learn how to play their instruments and music. The band's main role is to provide music to our community through concerts and our marching and pep bands. However, there are also regional, state, and national festivals, competitions, travel opportunities, and chances to get involved with activities like the pit orchestra for the annual musical. Any student looking to learn an instrument or get involved with the band for the first time should sign up to take Concert Band as a class. Anyone with prior experience should contact Mr. Costabile.

Pep Band

Advisor: Mr. Costabile

This is an instrumental ensemble that performs music at sporting events throughout the year. While a majority of performances are focused around the winter basketball season, they have been known to show up to various other activities like Volleyball, Softball, or even Cross country to share some music and show some school spirit. To be a part of the Pep band, students must be enrolled in Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, or Percussion.

Color Guard

Advisors: DeeDee Severson

Whenever you see a marching band with dancers, flags, sabre/rifle work, and in general theatrics...that is color guard. This group is open to anyone in the school to join the BHS Marching bucs in various performances, events, and travel. This activity takes place primarily in the fall during football season, but continues through the year at parades, possible performances during a winter guard season (depending on the groups interest), and even have the opportunity to travel with the Marching Bucs.

See Marching band for more information or contact Mr. Costabile.

Marching Band

Advisor: Mr. Costabile

The BHS Marching Bucs are an instrumental ensemble that performs music and a choreographed show at many different types of events throughout the year. The most commonly seen events are local parades and halftime shows at Friday Night football games. However, they travel to University football games, marching band festivals, and local schools to share ideas and experiences. This group also travels together every other year to places like Disney World, Niagara Falls, and New

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Orleans. Members of this group must be enrolled in Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and/or Percussion courses at BHS.

Band Council

Advisor: Mr. Costabile

This group of students makes up the leadership team of the BHS band department. Students in this group meet monthly to discuss activities for band students, identify things that can be improved, set up social and outreach activities, and in general serve as peer leaders and role models for the band students. Leadership roles are typically given to veteran members of the high school program, but can be made available to incoming members who are interested.

Mariachi Club

Advisor: Mr. Costabile

This club meets once per week after school, and allows students to learn to perform Mexican folk songs and banda music. No previous music experience is required to participate in this club. Students have the opportunity to learn violin, guitar, bass/guitarron, trumpet, or vocals. The group is frequently contacted with performance requests in Belvidere and Rockford, and performing with the group is expected of anyone who joins the club.

Math Team

Advisor: Mr. Balsley

Math Team meets on Wednesday after school (usually beginning in October) to work together on challenging math problems that you might not see in class. In the winter, we have competitions where students compete both individually and as a team. Math Team is open to students of all ages and levels. All you need is a desire to get a little better at math. We are flexible with schedules; students don't need to attend all of the meetings to take part in competitions, nor are students required to compete if they would prefer to just attend meetings.

Scholastic Bowl

Advisor: Mrs. Donna Schelonka - Head Coach / Mrs. Nordstrom - Asst Coach

Scholastic Bowl is open to anyone. In 2023, we were regional champs for the first time in 15 years. It's a lot like Jeopardy! except that you don't answer with a question, and you play as a team against other schools. However, most people who later appear on Jeopardy! and win money (including Ken Jennings, who won about 2 and a half million) did quiz bowl aka Scholastic Bowl in high school and college. You can come to as many practices as you like or even just one to see if it's for you. Topics range over all academic areas and include some pop culture and current events.

Game Club

Advisor: Mr. Zabel

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Weekly gathering of individuals to share our passion of competitive and cooperative gaming. During meetings, individuals branch off to play new games every week. We welcome all lovers of card, tabletop, board games. Come play our current selection of games or bring your own favorites.

Science Olympiad

Advisor: **OPEN**

Science Olympiad is a team based competition where the team tackles 23 different challenges ranging from building events to lab events. Science Olympiad gives you the opportunity to learn things such as anatomy, chemistry, herpetology (reptiles), and forensics. Science Olympiad attends four (4) competitions every year. All students are welcome no matter your science background!

Kare Club

Advisor: **Mrs. Pedersen**

KARE is the environmental club at BHS.

We hold a meeting or have an activity once or twice a month, the meetings are held after school and some field trips/outings are on Saturday.

Our main focus is to promote an environmental lifestyle and experiences

You do not need to be in any particular class or grade to be a member.

Our activities include:

- Participating in the homecoming parade
- Courtyard cleanup and re-beautification effort with Renaissance
- Adopt-A-Road, roadside clean-up
- Volunteer opportunities with the Boone County Conservation District
- Supporting other clubs, ex. NHS Halloween Hallways

ZINES

Advisor: **Mrs. Reints**

'ZINES: meets biweekly. We create and critique student creative writing, such as short stories, poetry, etc. We also create and critique artwork in a variety of medias such as painting, drawing, sculpture, etc. In the past we have created a published 'Zine for the student body or personal 'Zines to share with friends.

German Club

Advisor: _____

German Club meets the first Monday of every month in room 5!! In German Club we explore German culture and traditions through activities such as: Celebrating Oktoberfest, Fasching, Weihnachten (christmas) and other German holidays. Creating German crafts/cooking German foods. Watching movies, playing Games. Discussing pop culture and more!! You do not have to be taking German as

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a class to come and have fun in German Club! Stop on by and see how German culture is similar and/or different to your own!

Rock & Metal Music Club

Advisor: Mr. Neal and Mr. Hvezda

Our club aims to tap into the rock and heavy metal music community here at BHS through offering lessons on how to play guitar, bass, drums, and vocals (particularly, though not limited exclusively, in the genres of rock and heavy metal). The inspiration behind our club originates with the Jack Black movie 'School of Rock'. We currently meet twice a month on Thursdays in room #42 at 3:20 pm - 4:05 pm.

RC Club

Advisor: Mr. Wolverton

We enjoy remote controlled car fun. We currently meet on Tuesday's in room 124 Woods Shop at 3:16 pm until 4:30 pm.

Bucs Abroad

Advisor: Mrs. Olsen & Mr. Edwards

Do you love to travel? Have you ever considered going on a trip to some exotic place? Would you like to travel at a discount or even a free rate? Bucs Abroad (travel club) is looking for more students and staff members to get involved in our adventures. Join us in room 207.