

# **CANDLEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL EXTRACURRICULAR CLUBS & ACTIVITIES 2024-2025**



**We invite you to explore all of the opportunities we have to offer through our clubs and activities program. Please read through our offerings for the 2024-2025 school year and see why Candlewood Middle School is the perfect place for you to get involved and find your passion!**

**Please visit our Candlewood News and Announcements Canvas page or our Candlewood Middle School website to access up-to-date information on each club. Please also check the morning announcements for club information and other important news.**

*"We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we're curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths."*

*- Walt Disney*

**AFRICAN AASO (Bi-Weekly)****Advisor: Mrs. Patricia Hobson**

The AASO Club is a place for students to experience a series of culturally, socially and academically focused discussions and programs from a unique perspective, while encouraging unity and acceptance.

**ANIME CLUB (Bi-Weekly)****Advisor: Ms. Marina Hallaran**

The Anime Club is a place for any student who enjoys watching, discussing, or drawing anime (or manga). We promote the appreciation and enjoyment of anime as an art form as well as an awareness and understanding of Japanese culture. Everyone is welcome; students can join at any point in the school year.

**ART CLUB (Weekly)****Advisor: Mrs. Karolyn Casazza**

The Art Club gives students the chance to make detailed art projects and be part of a community of children who are passionate about art. Students in the Art Club work in various media to further their artistic skills. The members have the opportunity to explore and take different art mediums beyond what is offered in the regular classroom setting.

**BEE TEAM (Bi-Weekly)****Advisors: Mrs. Sharon Holzman and Ms. Jean Monsees**

The Bee Team is a club designed for students who are interested in a challenge. Students will be able to prepare for the Scripps Spelling Bee and the Geography Bee. Both Contests will have events, and students may move onto regional, state and/or national competition.

**BOOK CLUB (Bi-Weekly)****Advisor: Mrs. Erica Schultheis**

The Book Club promotes reading and literacy without the pressure of assignments or grades. Kids read selections in literature circles and participate in guided book talks in a relaxed and supportive environment. A lifelong love of literature is a page-turn away!

**CAREER CONNECTION CRAFTS (Bi-Weekly)****Advisor: Mrs. Beth Ann Magali**

The goal for the Career Connections Craft Club is to teach children how to positively engage in independent activities during unstructured times throughout their day. The children will be introduced to various crafts and will be able to work on the skills needed in order to become independent.



### **CHAMBER ORCHESTRA (Weekly)**

**Advisor: Mrs. Nicole Abrams**

The purpose of this club is to provide an extension of the exciting orchestra program. Students need to be currently enrolled in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade orchestra. The music is typically more advanced than what students learn during the regular class time. Students will audition to assess their readiness for the group and will be seated according to ability. If accepted into the group, students will learn skills needed to perform with a small group such as playing without a conductor, blending with their section and the whole ensemble, and more advanced expression and phrasing techniques.

### **CHEERLEADERS CLUB**

**Advisor: Mrs. Eileen Miller**

The purpose of the club is to promote and uphold school spirit and to develop a sense of good sportsmanship among students and fans. The members of the club are expected to create and promote teamwork, collaboration, encourage quality performance and high academic standards. Through the development of spirit and cheer technique, leadership, cooperation, self-discipline, and sportsmanship, the cheerleading team encourages their student body and their community through the support of athletic events and activities.

### **COMMUNICATION CLUB (Bi-Weekly)**

**Advisor: Mr. Douglas Gerbino**

The purpose of this club is to assist in designing candlewood's morning announcements. The club will write what is to be read to include special days, historical events, and points of interest for middle school students. Students in this club may have the opportunity to read certain parts of the announcements.



### **COMPUTER & CODING CLUB**

**Advisor: Mrs. Krista Calvanese**

The Coding Club is designed to demystify “code”, to show that anybody can learn the basics, and to broaden participations in the field of computer science. It helps nurture problem-solving skills, logic and creativity. By starting early, students will have the foundation for success in any 21<sup>st</sup> century career path. We will use code.org and a few other sites to learn the basics.

### **CREATIVE WRITING CLUB (Bi-Weekly)**

**Advisor: Mrs. Erica Schultheis**

The Creative Writing Club is the perfect place for students to explore poetry, narrative and other writing styles. Challenge yourself to be creative...we dare you!

### **DANCELINE/KICKLINE CLUB**

**Advisors: Ms. Taylor Steffek / Assistant Advisor: Ms. Rebecca Telese**

Danceline is a competitive team that participates in building school spirit and strives to build leadership skills between all grade levels through the love of dance. Our team consists of an average of 14-20 girls, grades 6-8. A background in dance is beneficial and helpful in making the team, but this is not required to make the team.

### **DOUBLE DUTCH CLUB (2<sup>nd</sup> half of year)**

**Advisor: Mrs. Patricia Hobson**

The Double Dutch Club teaches students how to develop hand-eye coordination as well as the ability to work cooperatively turning ropes with a partner to practice the skill of jumping Double Dutch. Students are encouraged to take risks when jumping in the rope. The club also fosters the making of new friendships.

### **DRAMA CLUB**

**Director: TBA            Assistant Director: TBA**

This club will provide students with the opportunity to explore the art of theatre through the products of two shows – Fall Musical and Spring Musical. The students are provided an opportunity in acting, singing, dancing, stage production, lighting and sound. The Fall Musical production is in December and the Spring production is in April.

### **ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION CLUB**

**Advisor: Frank Genise**

This club will cover topics and activities to include learning about music and concert production, video production, film and TV Production and assisting with producing this year's 6<sup>th</sup> grade Talent Show and so much more!

### **FRIENDSHIP CLUB (Bi-Weekly)**

**Advisor: Mrs. Beth Ann Magali**

The Friendship Club is a unique and fun after school club that gives opportunities for students throughout the building to socialize and make friends with the students in the Career Connections classes through games and activities.

### **FUTURE EDUCATORS CLUB**

**Co-Advisors: Maria Lennon & Taylor Steffek**

The "Future Educators" club is designed to inspire middle school students to consider a career in teaching. We provide fun activities, mentorship, and learning experiences that help students discover the joy of education. We believe that everyone can make a difference as a teacher, and together, we will build the skills and confidence needed to succeed in this important role.

## **HOME & CAREERS / COOKING & COMMUNITY CLUB**

**Advisor: Ms. Waren Kaplan**

Come join the fun! If you like to cook or help others, this club may be just for you! While we are going to do a lot of cooking, we will be giving back to the less fortunate as well.

## **HOMEWORK HELPERS CLUB**

**Advisor: Mr. James McGaley**

A place to complete your homework with the assistance of an adult and/or NJHS students. Club meets every Wednesday for one hour after school in the Candlewood Library.

## **JAZZ CLUB**

**Advisor: Mr. Dallas Pigate**

To provide students the opportunity to work on music from the jazz repertoire, learn how to improvise, and prepare pieces for the Winter and Spring concerts.

## **JUNIOR TRI-M MUSIC HONOR SOCIETY**

**Advisor: Mrs. Nicole Abrams**

Junior Tri-M Music Honor Society is a nationally recognized society for students who have already shown themselves to be academically capable and musically gifted. Through performance and community service, they will develop confidence, creativity, critical things, compassion, and a host of other leadership skills sure to serve them well in school and beyond. Students in Band, Orchestra or Chorus can join and must maintain a 95 or higher average in their music class. They also must maintain an 85 or higher overall average. Students must participate in two service events over the course of the year. Students will choose officers to help run the meetings and events. There will be four meetings per month, two for just officers, one for all members, one for a service event. Service activities include any actions undertaken by the student that are done with or on behalf of others without any direct financial or material compensation to the individual performing the service. (food drives, concert ushers, practice buddies, et.) There will be an induction ceremony at the end of the year for members who have met the requirements for the year.

## **KALEIDOSCOPE (Bi-Weekly)**

**Advisor: Ms. Marina Hallaran**

The purpose of this club is to create a safe, welcoming, and accepting space for all students, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. Kaleidoscope is a student-led club that aims to unite LGBTQ+ and allied students to build community and organize around issues impacting them in the school and community.

## **MATH OLYMPIADS – 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE**

**Advisor: Ms. Gwen Shaw**

The purpose of the club is to provide opportunities for Grade 6 children to engage in creative problem-solving activities which develop a child's ability to reason, be logical, resourceful, and occasionally ingenious. The Olympiad's goals for children are:

- 1) Develop enthusiasm for problem solving and mathematics
- 2) Deepen understanding of mathematical concepts and strengthen ability to use these concepts
- 3) Consider concepts that they might encounter in their life
- 4) Enrich experiences in intellectually stimulating and significant mental activities. Enrollment is capped at 24 members.

## **MATHLETES – 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE**

**Advisor: Mrs. Krista Calvanese**

Do you like working with numbers, solving equations and unravelling logic problems? Whether you are interested in fast-paced competition with peers, or relaxed projects exploring math in the world around you, Mathletes is the place for you. The MOEMS goals are to:

- \* Develop enthusiasm for problem solving and mathematics
- \* Deepen understanding of mathematical concepts and strengthen ability to use these concepts
- \* Consider concepts that they might not otherwise encounter
- \* Enrich experiences in intellectually stimulating and significant mental activities
- \* Build a stronger foundation for assessments and for future mathematics studies

## **MOCK TRIAL CLUB**

**Advisor: Ms. Kristen Ulmer   Assistant Advisor: Andrew Doniger**

To provide students the opportunity to prepare a mock and argue it against another school at a competition. The club's defense will argue against another school.

## **MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

**Advisor: Mrs. Aliyah Pirzada**

Muslim Students Association – The MSA is a place for students to increase their understanding of Islam, Islamic culture, and traditions through open dialogue and festive celebrations. MSA is open to any and all who are interested in learning more about Islamic practice throughout the world and to share experiences with students, teachers, and the community.

## **NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY**

**ADVISORS: Mrs. Patricia Hobson and Mrs. Dianne Angileri**

NJHS is a service organization and the members (by induction) are encouraged to complete their required community service in a variety of ways. This includes activities like office duty, volunteering at the community library, local hospitals and elderly care facilities, ushering at concerts, or helping out with school charitable organizations. The members support in-school clubs as well, including student government, Candlewood Cares, Friendship Cub and SOAR. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are admitted to the NJHS based on established NJHS criteria. Criteria for membership to the National Junior Honor Society can be found on page 16 of the Candlewood Agenda Book.

## **ONE WORLD YOUTH CLUB**

**Advisor: Mrs. Sharon Holzman**

One World Youth Club is a global citizenship club where students will explore how to be leaders in their local and global communities. Students will complete service projects that include: Breast Cancer Walk, Sunshine toy Drive, Spring Food Drive and other activities.

## **SCHOOL STORE**

**Advisor: Ms. Eileen Miller**

If you like shopping or spending money, this club may be for you. Employees will be trained in departmentalizing, inventory, and ordering merchandise. Members will also learn how to operate a cash register/box and count change, a valuable skill for a future job in high school. The School Store will be open at dismissal for student shoppers.



## **SCIENCE OLYMPIAD**

**Advisor: Ms. Melissa Watkins; Assistant Advisor: Ms. Lauren Norris**

The purpose of Science Olympiad is to compete in the Science Olympiad Middle school tournament. It is a national organization that competes on a regional, state and national level. The regional competition is held on a Saturday sometime in February or March. The students prepare to compete in over 15 science, technology and engineering events. In the past, we have two teams of 15 students each with a few alternates.

## **STUDENT GOVERNMENT/COUNCIL – 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> GRADES**

**Advisors: Mrs. Krista Calvanese and Mrs. Amanda DeFelice**

Student Government meets every morning during advisory in room 204 to discuss current school events, organize school activities such as dances, the pep rally, and “Spirit Week”, and also organize fundraisers throughout the year.

## **8<sup>th</sup> GRADE ADVISORS**

**Advisors: Mrs. Kathryn Keller and Ms. Skyler Browder**

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade advisors start the year off with a pie sale fundraiser, in order to benefit the 8<sup>th</sup> graders and offset the cost of their class trips. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade class advisors are excited to generate new ideas and create memorable events to commemorate your time at Candlewood. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade advisors plan and facilitate the 8<sup>th</sup> grade end of the year events and moving up ceremony in June.

## **TECHNOLOGY CLUB**

**Advisor: Mr. William Ulrich**

Students will learn to use a variety of hand and power tools to create a variety of projects depending on their skill level.

## **WORLD LANGUAGE CLUB**

**Advisor: Jamie Olanick**

All are welcome to join the World Language Club to show off and learn about different cultures via languages and traditions. Come for crafts, karaoke, competitions, and much more!

## **YEARBOOK CLUB**

**Advisor: Mrs. Kathryn Keller / Assistant Advisor: Mrs. Maureen Mott**

The purpose of this club is to design, promote, and distribute Candlewood’s annual yearbook publication. Assisted by teachers, students use an online computer program to create pages, take photos, and capture the atmosphere of Candlewood Middle School.

## **YOGA CLUB**

**Advisor: Mrs. Namrata Dixit**

This club will help students to learn all the practices surrounding Yoga including meditation, poses and philosophy.

## **INTRAMURALS 2024-2025 – 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE STUDENTS ONLY**

The intramural program at Candlewood Middle School is an outgrowth of the physical education program. All 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are invited to attend on a voluntary basis regardless of their sport skill level. Participation – rather than competition – is emphasized. A variety of activities are offered with most meeting twice weekly for a ten-week period of time. Activities change seasonally and are led by staff members. The intramural program is publicized through public address announcements in advisory, written notices, announcements in physical education class, and posters. The intramural programs may include Flag Football, Soccer, Weight Room, Basketball and Softball.

**FURTHER DETAILS FOR THE INTRAMURAL PROGRAM WILL  
BE POSTED IN THE MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS AND  
CANDLEWOOD WEBSITE**





## **CANDLEWOOD ATHLETICS – 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE STUDENTS ONLY**

It is our goal to see that all coaches promote fitness, sportsmanship, skills improvement, team and school spirit, and character. There are twenty-six boys and girls inter-scholastic teams and Candlewood continues a solid athletic tradition with over 50% of all seventh and eighth grade students participating on at least one team during the school year.

### **FALL SEASON (September – October)**

Co-Ed	Cross-Country
Boys	Football 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Football 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Soccer 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Soccer 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Girls	Field Hockey Soccer 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Soccer 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade

### **EARLY WINTER SEASON (November – January)**

Boys	Basketball 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Girls	Volleyball 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade

### **LATE WINTER SEASON (Mid-January – March)**

Boys	Volleyball Wrestling
Girls	Basketball 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade

### **SPRING SEASON (End of March – June)**

Co-Ed	Swimming CW/WH
Boys	Baseball 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Baseball 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lacrosse 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lacrosse 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Track & Field 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Girls	Lacrosse 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Softball 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Softball 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Track & field 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade

Fall Season begins: September 3, 2024

Early Winter Season begins: November 4, 2024

Late Winter Season Begins: January 13, 2025

Spring Season Begins: March 24, 2025

Please contact the Nurse's Office  
for any athletic information.

Phone: 631-592-3301

Email: [eorlean@hhh.k12.ny.us](mailto:eorlean@hhh.k12.ny.us)