

## STOUGHTON HIGH SCHOOL

### STUDENT ACTIVITIES & CLUBS

Announcements are made at the beginning of each school year providing information about the start of student activities and the dates of scheduled general or committee meetings. Articles will also appear regularly in the student online newspaper, *The Knight*, about clubs and school activities.

#### **Art Club**

The Art Club is an after school activity that provides materials, instruction and support for those students who are seeking a creative outlet in addition to their academic schedule.

#### **Astronomy Club**

The purpose of this club is to promote, through its activities, interest and education in astronomy and related space sciences for its members.

#### **Book Club**

The book discussion group is a forum where readers can come together and talk about books and the reading experience. Members help to choose the books that will be read and discussed.

#### **Buddies Club**

A partnership between Stoughton High students and students enrolled in the Life skills classrooms at SHS and the O'Donnell Middle School. Students meet once a week to build social connections through art projects, games and social interaction.

#### **Color Guard**

The Color Guard is open to any interested student in grades nine through twelve. The Color Guard works with the marching band during the fall season at home football games and in marching band competitions. Members of the guard learn and perform marching routines, prop and flag choreography, and dance. The Guard participates with the band in the town parades.

#### **Computer Science Programming Club**

The Computer Science Club was formed to generate, advance, and share students' interests in the Computer and Information Sciences and Technology. The club meets weekly, and the club members decide on activities to be pursued in any particular academic year.

#### **Construction Challenge**

To develop opportunities which inspire the global community of learners to utilize diverse approaches in applying 21st century skills and creativity. The program is a fun, hands-on system of learning that fosters students' creativity, courage and curiosity through open-ended academic Challenges in the fields of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), fine arts and service learning. Our participants learn patience, flexibility, persistence, ethics, respect for others and their ideas, and the collaborative problem solving process. Teams may showcase their solutions at a tournament.

#### **DECA**

The Stoughton High chapter of this national student business organization provides students with opportunities to compete in state and national competitions.

## **Drama**

Two major productions are held each year. A dramatic production is performed in late autumn and a musical is performed in the spring. Auditions are announced through Knightline for several days before they are held. All stage crew jobs are also open to students.

## **Fruition Scholars**

Fruition Scholars is a student run club that meets once a week in order to advance and encourage diverse students to strive to be in honors and Advanced Placement courses. This program is a tutoring/mentoring program where senior students are paired with underclassmen to encourage them in their pursuit of higher academic expectations.

## **Games & Hobbies Club**

Students play video and board games that interest the clubs' members.

## **JSA (Junior Statesmen of America)**

JSA allows for an exchange of ideas through stimulating student debates, thought talks, problem solving and a variety of simulations. By participating in these activities each member gains a more intelligent and informed viewpoint. JSA also provides a wonderful chance to meet and make friends with scores of other bright, involved students who have similar interests. JSA is a national organization organized at the local chapter level.

## **The Knight**

The Knight, SHS's student online newspaper, meets weekly to plan, write, and edit news, features, and editorials of interest to the student population. All students are welcome to attend meetings and submit articles, photos, and illustrations for publication.

## **Math Team**

The objective of the math team is to give any student interested in mathematics a chance to compete against students from other schools. This helps students become aware that there are people in other communities who are also interested in mathematics. They are also competing against the clock and must learn to think quickly. Some extra work is required of the students in preparation for the competition. This can be accomplished after school and at home by completing practice exams.

## **Music programs: Jazz Band, Jazz Choir, and Marching Band**

The High School Music Department offers many opportunities to perform with a challenging musical group, either vocally or instrumentally. The groups perform at many school concerts and also participate in regional, state, and national tournaments. The music program has been consistently ranked tops in New England for the past ten years. Auditions are required for Jazz Band and Jazz Choir.

## **National Honor Society**

Membership to the National Honor Society is open only to juniors and seniors who have maintained a B+ grade point average and who have shown leadership qualities both in school and in the community. National Honor Society is a service organization which raises money for national charities, volunteers in the community, tutors students throughout the Stoughton school system, and awards a scholarship to a graduating senior.

**Peer Leadership**

Peer Leadership has been active in Stoughton since 1987. It has a long-standing association with the community health committee. Its primary goals are to develop leadership skills and strategies of avoiding peer pressure. Members host the annual blood drive, participate in parent forums, staff a booth at the Sinai Health Fair and attend a number of events surrounding "Team Harmony." In general, Peer Leadership coordinates activities, which promote harmony, equity, diversity, and an appreciation of a substance-free lifestyle. Members work with a variety of local and regional groups whose goals are consistent with theirs. Members meet weekly to plan activities and to discuss issues as they affect Stoughton and the world. Any Stoughton High School student is eligible to join at any time throughout the year.

**Peer Mediation**

Peer Mediation is a process in which students, who are involved in a dispute, meet with trained peer mediators to talk about ways to resolve the problem.

**Poetry Club**

Poetry Club is for students who enjoy writing, reading, and studying poetry. This club is open to everyone. Meetings are informal and usually consist of reading poems and biographies of a chosen poet, exploring different types of poetry, and sharing original work.

**Recycling Club**

The Recycling Club is a group of students who care about the environment. Anyone may participate. So far, the Recycling Club has organized a program to return all five-cent deposit cans and to recycle all non-refundable aluminum drink cans. Currently, members are working on a program for recycling paper.

**S.A.D.D.**

S.A.D.D.'s goal is to make students aware of the risks involved with alcohol and drug abuse. Members accomplish this through a series of activities: making announcements at critical times of the year; writing newspaper articles; distributing message cards; providing red ribbons; hanging posters; creating bulletin boards and a billboard.

**Science Olympiad Team**

The Science Olympiad Team is open to students of all grades. We compete in regional competition once per month, and in March in the State Science Olympiad. The events cover a wide range of topics and include interesting projects to be built.

**Spectrum**

Spectrum was formed during the school year 1997-98 with the support of the Stoughton Public School's administration and the Massachusetts Department of Education. The goals of the organization are to provide a safe environment for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students, as well as straight students, and to offer opportunities for education and discussion on GLBT issues for all members of the Stoughton community. The group meets regularly. Most of the activities are supported by grants from the Department of Education. The group has participated in regional workshops, hosted guest speakers, and sponsored programs and workshops for concerned students and faculty.

### **Step Up to Excellence**

This group is funded by Piecework Partners and it helps students find a place in the world. We offer support and experiences designed to broaden students' horizons. We help students disassemble falsely established limitations and grasp previously unattainable goals. Step Up utilizes "natural mentors", educators who are selected from the students own schools. The mentors then create a smaller learning community that motivates and supports students. We offer individually tailored opportunities to develop student potential over a three year period. By the end of that time period we expect students to step up to responsibilities with increased confidence and character, leadership.

### **Stotonian Yearbook**

Members of the Stotonian staff meet in order to plan, discuss, distribute forms, type, work on layout sheets, sell advertising space, and sell yearbooks. Contributors write, sketch, draw, cut and paste, and study yearbooks of the past from SHS and from other schools. Journalism experience, either through course work or school newspaper work, is a plus.

### **Stoughton Leadership Institute**

The Stoughton Leadership Institute is a project of the Stoughton Youth Commission to promote civic engagement. It provides high school students with the opportunity to develop fundamental leadership skills.

### **Student Council**

Student Council holds meetings in the evenings, which are open to the entire student body. Fifteen members are elected from each class in the spring of every year by their peers. The principal, on the recommendation of the Student Council adviser, may appoint two students from each class who ran and weren't elected. Two at-large members may also be appointed in the same manner. The Student Council members elect Student Council officers after the general election. Both new members and members from the previous year may vote. Some of the activities Student Council is involved with are: developing the all-school calendar, running all school elections, coordinating Spirit Week, overseeing the Winter Dance and attending regional and statewide meetings and conventions. Other activities are included as the needs arise.

### **Student Advisory Council**

The Student Advisory Council is comprised of the Student Council officers. Each spring elections determine the following year's membership. The role of this council is to represent the student body at periodic meetings with the principal and the school committee. Student handbook revision, the addressing of concerns, and the proposal of new ideas are a few examples of this important student leadership council.

### **Tokyo Club**

Students participate in discussions on Japanese culture and study Japanese anime movies.

### **X-clusive Knights**

A coed step and dance club which performs at pep rallies and athletic contests.