



Francis Howell Middle School

# 2010-2011 Student Clubs and Activities

## All of Us Club

Need a friend? Then be a friend! Help encourage our students with disabilities to become more involved with school and off campus activities by becoming a mentor. A mentor is a person willing to be a big brother or big sister -- a special friend to a student with special needs. Not only will you be helping someone improve their social skills, you will probably learn a lot about yourself too! This service learning experience will strengthen your leadership skills and help you develop an appreciation of people with differences. There will be games, field trips, and lots of snacks! We will meet twice a month after school.

## Character Council

This team of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders meets together as a Character Connection class and plans and manages community service activities for our school. Last year, the council sponsored a record-setting food drive, sang Christmas carols at Breeze Park Retirement Home, collected toys for Progress West Hospital, organized health kits for Haiti, collected baseball equipment for St. Louis children to learn the game, and decorated window boards to help beautification efforts in North St. Louis. You can "friend" this group on Facebook at **FHMS Character Council**.

## Crusaders' Quest Student Newspaper

Writers ... illustrators ... photographers ... lend us your talent! The Crusaders' Quest, our school's newspaper, is created by students for students. Our staff includes a small team of driven individuals who enjoy writing, creating illustrations (by hand or digitally), and taking pictures. It is our job to feature students and document events that take place in our school and community. Students of all grade levels are encouraged to apply. A work sample will be evaluated as part of the application process. Applications will be available the first few weeks of school. If you'd like to help us note the "happenings" at Francis Howell Middle ... apply! We'd love to have you!

## Drama Club

If you are dramatic at heart, the Drama Club offers several performance opportunities throughout the school year. Students may participate in our annual talent show in the fall or in our spring play/musical. There are also opportunities to audition to perform in all-school

assemblies. Depending on the production, several after school rehearsals may be scheduled. Audition, practice, and performance opportunities are posted in advance on the daily eNEWS bulletin. Our productions offer many opportunities for parents to get involved as well!

## **Fellowship of Christian Athletes**

FCA is a group of coaches, student athletes, and those interested in athletics, who gather for Christian fellowship around the common bond of sports and faith. Meetings are held twice a month on Wednesday mornings before school and focus on self-growth and spiritual nourishment. Parent volunteers are welcome to assist with this club!

## **Hero Team (Renaissance)**

Are you creative? Do you like to help plan events? Hero Team members brainstorm ideas to plan the all-school assemblies that celebrate student success and accomplishments at FHMS. There are typically four celebration assemblies, including a talent showcase in the fall, recognition of our school community service projects in December, a student-faculty basketball game in February and an end-of-the year celebration in May. This year, our team will be on the look out for "heroes" in our school community. We welcome parent volunteers who can help us with the set-up and break-down of assemblies.

## **Industrial Technology Club**

Are you fascinated by model building, model rocketry, or small engine maintenance? The Industrial Technology Club meets after school twice a month and members enjoy hands-on activities in each of these three areas. Bring your own model or rocket and supplies to each meeting and we will work on different techniques to improve your model's visual appearance. During small engine maintenance, we will look at how to tune up lawn mowers and perform general repairs and upkeep. There is no fee for this club and you may come to all meetings, or just the ones that interest you!

## **Intramurals**

All students are welcome and encouraged to participate in the intramurals program. Intramurals are offered after school until 4:15 pm one or two days a week to help students focus on sports and physical activities regardless of their athletic skill. Each quarter a new sport or activity is offered, including soccer, flag football, wrestling, basketball, washers, badminton, and ping pong. Intramural permission forms must be signed by a parent before a student can participate. Occasionally we may compete with another school. In these cases, a special parent permission form is required.

## **Jazz Band**

Seventh and eighth grade musicians are invited to join the Crusader Jazz Band. Students must have at least one year of playing experience and have the desire to learn different styles of jazz, swing, and rock music. This group performs a spring concert at the high school and may perform in school assemblies. Depending on the number of students that are interested, the director may hold auditions. The group meets once a week after school beginning in January.

## **National Junior Honor Society**

Are you a leader in our school? Do you show exemplary character and maintain good grades? Do you have a heart for serving others? This is your organization! Students who are interested in applying for membership to the National Junior Honor Society must attain a first semester grade point average of 3.65 (no rounding). Applications are available in February and must be picked up in the guidance office. Students must complete the application, attach their report card, and return it by the deadline date. A five member faculty council reviews the applicant's scholarship, character, and citizenship. New inductees are notified by an administrator six weeks after applications are returned. If you become a member, you must maintain a 3.5 GPA for the duration of your membership. You must also attend monthly meetings, complete 10 service hours in the community and school, and participate in one of our school-wide service projects. In the past these projects have included babysitting for choir and band concerts, helping with the St. Jude's Math-a-Thon, and participating in teacher appreciation events. Parent volunteers are welcome to assist with this club.

## **Social Studies Club**

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be President of the United States? Do you like to dress up in historical costumes? The Social Studies Club is for students of all grade levels who are interested in history, government, politics, and current events. We volunteer for many activities at the Daniel Boone Home, including Pioneer Days, Candlelight Tour, and Spring Planting. Create your own costume for these events, or borrow one from our supply. In the spring, 8<sup>th</sup> graders may apply to participate in White House Decision Center — a presidential simulation held at the Truman Library in Independence, Missouri. Parent volunteers are always welcome!

## **Spirit Team**

If you love to dance and cheer, you are just the person we are looking for! The FHMS Spirit Team is a group that likes to have fun and celebrate academics, behavior, and character. We learn dances, stunts, cheers, chants, jumps, pyramids, tumbling, and other fun cheerleading activities. We perform at assemblies and other school events. Students from all grades and

with all levels of ability are welcome. Practice is after school every other Thursday. Grab your poms and your spirit and join us! Parents are welcome to help or co-sponsor.

### **VOICES (Variety Opportunities Inciting Character Empowerment)**

"Girl world" can be confusing! You have no idea why your best friend is giving you the silent treatment or why a group of girls are rolling their eyes at you when you simply smiled and said hello. VOICES is a program created to help girls understand not only why female bullying happens, but to give you the power to stop it at your school! We deal with issues like gossip, cliques, jealousy, conflict, and friendship. This is a great opportunity to meet new girls and "be the change you want to see in YOUR school!" We will begin meeting second semester.

### **UFO (United Friends Organization)**

Leap into a new galaxy and join UFO! This organization promotes the development of friendships with other students in our building and is dedicated to service learning. We welcome new students to our school with activities like decorating their locker. We promote recycling, work in the student garden, maintain the bird feeders, and assist our custodians in a variety of ways. We also have game days, picnics, and may even take a field trip! In UFO, you will bond with "far out" students and develop friendships that are "out of this world!"

### **Yearbook**

Help capture those unforgettable moments at FHMS as a member of our yearbook staff! We are a small group of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders who meet once a month until January, and then as needed until the end of the school year. Work includes taking pictures, writing captions, publicizing yearbook sales, and handling all other duties associated with publishing a yearbook. Parent volunteers are welcome and can help us by uploading pictures into folders on the school server.

*\*Parent Volunteers with completed background checks are welcome and encouraged to assist with student clubs and activities. If you need to confirm or complete your background check, please contact Laurie Holder in the FHMS office at 851-4868 or [laurie.holder@fhdschools.org](mailto:laurie.holder@fhdschools.org).*