

ACTIVITIES AT PORTAGE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL 2022-2023

EXTRA-CURRICULARS

Archery: Kate Overheul
323-5336

koverheul@portageps.org

Archery is a competitive club, which begins in middle school and transfers into high school. The season usually begins in November and competition starts in January and runs through until the State Tournament in May. It is a great opportunity to be athletic as well as participate on a team. You must make a commitment for the entire season.

Book Club: Sara Brown (323-5364) & Julie Griesbach (323-5286)

sbrown@portageps.org and/or jgriesbach@portageps.org

Book Club meets once per month to discuss a book that students select. All students who enjoy reading are welcome to join!

Breaking Boundaries: Eric Lancaster

323-5248

elancaster@portageps.org

Our goal is to destigmatize mental illness and increase access to treatment for youth. We will write anonymous, heart-felt letters to students to offer support during difficult times. We will educate and bond with students to ensure mental health is on track for a bright, happy future.

Central Companions: Cathay Laurencig

323-5220

claurencig@portageps.org

Our goal is to provide elementary students who are known to have a mental, social or academic disability with a mentor who can be seen as a friend.

Chess Club: Chris Czuk

323-5227

cczuk@portageps.org

Chess Club provides a platform for PCHS students to play chess with each other, whether they want to learn, improve, or simply have fun.

Cooking Club: Stephanie DeAnda

323-5205

sdeanda@portageps.org

Cooking club will allow students to learn practical cooking skills, kitchen safety, and learn about new cultures. Students will cook many different kinds of food from various places around the world. There will also be special events such as cooking competitions or cooking food for teachers to show them our appreciation for the work they do.

CHOW(Culinary/Heritage Org. for Welfare): Kent Baker (323-5253) & Carolyn Moore (323-5346)

kbaker@portageps.org and/or cmoore@portageps.org.

This is an opportunity to learn about diverse cultures, cook, and get hands-on within our community. CHOW reaches out to others in need. We educate about problems throughout our world and provide humanitarian aid to those in crisis.

DECA: David VanderHorst
323-5226

dvanderhorst@portageps.org

DECA has been recognized by the United States and the Michigan Department of Education as an integral part of the classroom curriculum because of its leadership development and how it prepares members to be college and career ready. DECA's industry-validated activities and competitive events are aligned with the National Curriculum Standards in the career clusters of marketing, business management and administration, finance, and hospitality and tourism. DECA is a competitive club, so you must make a commitment for the entire season.

Dungeons and Dragons: James Phillips
323-5091

jphillips@portageps.org

This club is a convenient place for new and veteran players to gather to play tabletop role playing games(TTRPG). You will have an opportunity to meet new people and gain friendships while having fun playing games.

E-Sports: James Carrow
323-5349

jcarrow@portageps.org

E-Sports is available to give students an opportunity to engage with one another virtually using video game competitions as a catalyst. This increases mental health, gives students another reason to be successful, and helps build attachment and affiliation with the school, its students, and faculty.

Environmental Club: Cathy Laurencig
323-5220

claurencig@portageps.org

This club is designed to educate and enrich students' experiences in environmental accountability and sustaining our environment.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes: Mike Freeland (323-5202) & Tammy Rearick (323-5304)
mfreeland@portageps.org and/or trearick@portageps.org

This is a student-led opportunity for fellowship and prayer.

Fiber Arts Club: Kate Phipps
323-5252

kphipps@portageps.org

No experience is necessary; we have student volunteers who will teach basic skills to newcomers. We also have yarn and needles available for student use. We tend to work on small projects that can be completed fairly quickly (like a poppy for veteran's day or baby hats to donate), but some students bring in larger projects like blankets or scarves to work on over a longer period of time. When working on projects to donate (like hats or scarves), students can earn community service hours. Students in the IB program can also earn CAS hours.

Fill 24 - The Jesus Generation: Tammy Rearick
323-5304

trearick@portageps.org

The purpose of this club is to bring a broken generation back to the loving arms of Jesus.

Film Club: Ann Alburtus
323-5230

aalburtus@portageps.org

This club provides an opportunity to demonstrate an understanding and appreciation for films by analysis and discussion. Club members will also expand their knowledge of films and everything that goes into them.

French Club: Rachel Flachs
323-5309

rflachs@portageps.org

The French Club is for students who want to work on their French-speaking skills and learn the customs and traditions of various French-speaking cultures.

Gamer's Club: Ron Moore
323-5265

rmoore@portageps.org

Gamers Club is for everyone who enjoys playing video games. Students often bring their switch or 3ds though you do not have to. We have been playing Super Smash Bros and Mario Party. It is a fun club that meets once a week. All skill levels are welcome.

Garden Club: Mark Mattox (323-5207) & Stephanie DeAnda (323-5205)

mmattox@portageps.org and/or sdeanda@portageps.org

The goal of this club is to improve the surrounding landscape of the school. The Garden Club has its own Community Garden and draws in 20-40 students at one time. Students are able to meet new friends, enjoy time building community among their peers, and learn about how gardens function and produce crops through regular care and maintenance. There are also opportunities for service hours.

GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance): J. Tyler Baas-Peterson
323-5312

tbaas@portageps.org

This club meets semimonthly and aims to create a safe and supportive space where students can discuss topics surrounding sexuality, gender, and various LGBT+ issues. This club welcomes all students, whether LGBT, ally, or interested in learning more and asking questions about this part of society.

The Ginsburg Society: Kate Phipps
323-5252

khipps@portageps.org

The goal of this club is to get youth, primarily girls, involved in politics. It will be both a Democrat and Republican's club where we will talk about different issues in our country and then figure out how we can come together and make compromises on the issues. We will also go out and do different community services.

JEDI (Justice, Equality, Diversity, & Inclusion):

James Phillips (323-5091), Ashley Bowen (323-5310), Carolyn Moore (323-5346)

jphillips@portageps.org and abowen@portageps.org and cmoore@portageps.org

This club consists of a diverse group of people who try to create a safe space to understand and learn about different cultures. We will work to become culturally sensitive and literate. We will also unlearn hate and teach empathy and compassion.

Kids in Science Club: Darcy Banitt
323-5217

dbannitt@portageps.org

The Kids in Science Club plan projects for the Elementary Schools.

Model UN: Amber French (323-5326), Adam Schwanzl (323-5318)

afrench@portageps.org and/or aschwanzl@portageps.org

Model UN is a simulation of the UN General Assembly and its other multilateral bodies where students perform an ambassador role while debating topics such as gender equality, climate action, global health, and more.

Montage Literary & Arts Magazine: J. Tyler Baas-Peterson
323-5312

tbaas@portageps.org

Montage is Portage Central's fine arts and creative writing publication. Students in this club work as publicists, editors, submission panelists, and web designers who put out a publication of student submissions each year, which is then available for purchase. Students do not have to be involved in the club to have their writing or artwork included in *Montage*.

Moose Project: Emalee Ormond
323-5215

eormond@portageps.org

Moose Project is a diverse, student-driven club that forms mentor-mentee bonds and friendships to make high school more fun. All are welcome. This club will not begin until the 2nd semester.

Musicians Interact Club: Silvia McClish
323-5607

smcclish@portageps.org

Music Interact Club's purpose is to gather young musicians from all different instrumental families to play and enjoy music. In this club, there will be opportunities to improve general skills and techniques from a variety of instruments. The main purpose of this club, however, is to come together to play beautiful music. We will be covering all sorts of genres, whatever club members want to play -- it can be classical to even top animes.

Outdoor Adventure Club: Jason Badders
323-5222

jbadders@portageps.org

The Outdoor Adventure Club takes trips to the Upper Peninsula and Kentucky to explore and provide students an opportunity to experience the outdoors first-hand with well-trained experts.

Pickleball Club: Cathy Laurencig
323-5220

claurencig@portageps.org

The Pickleball Club plays pickleball outside of school against your classmates. It is a great time to have fun and be outside! No experience needed, can provide some equipment.

Portage Central USITT Student Chapter: Jason Frink (323-5235), Liz Honeysett (323-5241)
jfrink@portageps.org and/or ehoneysett@portageps.org

The goal of this club is to support students interested in backstage arts. The club will meet twice a month in the woodshop (Room 1157).

Recycling Club: Kate Phipps
323-5252

khipps@portageps.org

This club does the Recycling in the entire school every Tuesday after school. Their hard work and dedication to making the environment a better place makes a difference at Portage Central High School. And, students do receive service hours for their efforts.

Rise and Shine Optimist Club: Theresa Mills & Dan Mills

323-5265

theresakmills@gmail.com

The objective of this Club is to provide opportunities for Members individually and collectively to participate in community service activities, develop leadership abilities and prepare for responsible roles in society.

Rotary/PC Interact Club: Andy Iasci

323-5330

aiasci@portageps.org

Rotary connects people in the common good and the ideal of *Service Above Self*.

For over 100 years, Kalamazoo Rotarians have served in our community and internationally. Join us as we focus on programs that impact us professionally and personally, while building friendships and extending those connections by visiting other clubs around the globe.

Sewing Studio: Kat Frink

323-5225

kfrink@portageps.org

This club teaches students how to sew and make things (skirts/blankets) for events or organizations.

Ski Club: Jason Badders

323-5222

jbadders@portageps.org

Ski Club is an opportunity to go skiing at the Timber Ridge or Bittersweet Ski resorts. You also have the opportunity to interact with teachers from Central High School who love skiing and/or snowboarding, too.

Spanish Club: Bonnie Moss

323-5323

bmoss@portageps.org

The Spanish Club is for students who want to work on their Spanish-speaking skills and learn the customs and traditions of various Spanish-speaking cultures.

Waterpolo Club: Sam DeVries

323-5603

sdevries@portageps.org

This club is to inform and provide students with year round time to get more skilled in the sport. It also provides athletes with tailored workout plans.

Weightlifting & Fitness Club: Trevor Haas

323-5129

thaas@portageps.org

This club is for all students and athletes who don't have the time or supplies/equipment to exercise to get a chance to work out with friends and learn the proper way to lift weights.

YIMC(Youth Interested in Medical Careers): Darcy Banitt

323-5217

dbanitt@portageps.org

The goal of this club is to teach students about medical careers inside and outside of the hospital. It provides information to students about what they can be doing in high school to achieve these careers.

CO-CURRICULAR

PCTV (Broadcasting): Ashley Bowen

323-5310

abowen@portageps.org

PCTV is Portage Central's Multimedia Journalism program. Students work together to produce a weekly school news show. PCTV also powers live commentary at many varsity athletic events, has a robust social media presence, provides graphic editing for various programs, and uses digital storytelling to support school programs.

Student Council: Rob Hoopingarner

323-5301

rhoopingarner@portageps.org

The Student Council at Portage Central is more than just student representatives and activities. It truly is a student government. Meeting every day during the 3rd period, our Student Council listens to students and works with staff to fix student issues, address school-wide matters, and continue to improve upon our school community. The Student Council is led by five officers, including our Student Body President and comprises 24 student representatives, six from each class, elected by them. On top of all this, the Student Council hosts many events every year including homecomings, a talent show, and dances.

Yearbook (Roundup): Ann Alburtus

323-5230

aalburtus@portageps.org

The Roundup yearbook is a co-curricular activity inviting students who wish to take the class to be involved in the design, reporting, and implementation of the school's yearbook. This group is student leadership based and requires students to take an active role in working with each other and staff members; a time commitment outside of school is necessary.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Freshman Class:

Matt Mattox

323-5207

mmattox@portageps.org

Sophomore Class:

Kate Twichell

323-5216

ktwichell@portageps.org

Sam DeVries

323-5603

sdevries@portageps.org

Junior Class:

Jill Meyle

323-5281

jmeyle@portgaeps.org

Senior Class:

Adriana Davies

323-5262

adavies@portageps.org

Link Crew: Nikki Smith
323-5265

nsmith@portageps.org

Link Crew Leaders are role models for the freshman class, therefore behavior, academics, leadership, participation and citizenship must be and remain exemplary before and during your time as a student leader. Link Crew Leaders are expected to be out of class periodically, throughout the school year, to meet with their freshmen groups and meet before or after school with the link crew group as a whole. The goal is to integrate the freshman class into the "Mustang Way" and to be role models in the area of academics, involvement and citizenship.

National Honor Society: Kent Baker
323-5253

kbaker@portageps.org

Members are required to perform school and/or community service projects. Minimum service hours are required. Students are invited into membership in their 10th grade year based on scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Invitations are extended based on a minimum GPA.

MUSIC

Bands: Bryan VanToll
323-5331

Bjvantoll@portageps.org

Marching band performs at all home football games and travels throughout the fall season competing and performing. The marching band is known for its innovative music, drill design, color guard choreography and quality show productions. Jazz Band and Percussion Ensemble are options for band in the winter.

Choirs: Randi Simons-Miller
323-5333

rsimonsmiller@portageps.org

PCHS Choirs equip and inspire students to create art through the study and performance of Choral Music. Students develop musical skills including sight reading and vocal technique while learning a wide variety of repertoire from a range of time periods and styles. Opportunities exist for participation in Michigan School Vocal Music Association events including Honors Choir, District and State Choral Festival, and District and State Solo and Ensemble. Curricular Choirs include Concert Choir and the auditioned Chamber Singers.

Orchestra: Silvia McClish
323-5607

smcclish@portageps.org

Orchestra seeks to teach students of a variety of levels. Playing in a group setting challenges each member to be responsible for his or her part, communicate with others, and bring the musical performance to a new level. Public performances help to increase student confidence and self-esteem while providing a creative outlet. String playing covers a broad variety of musical styles in historical context: classical, folk, ethnic, modern, pop.

PERFORMING ARTS:

Forensics: J. Tyler Baas-Peterson

323-5312

tbaas@portageps.org

Forensics provides an excellent opportunity for students to speak competitively. A wide variety of speaking and interpretive events allow students to find their strengths. Ultimately, students prepare for one event and participate in several Saturday tournaments held during second semester. Events include seven dramatic events and seven public speaking events.

Fall Play: Ashley Bowen

323-5310

abowen@portageps.org

The Fall Play allows students to develop skills in many parts of the theatre, including, but not limited to, costume design, stage managing, running crew, acting, and hair/makeup crew work. The Fall Play is typically a smaller ensemble than the school musical and functions as an educational theatre, meaning that both highly experienced theatre students and students without theatre experience can come together then put together an excellent production. Auditions for the Fall Play are typically during the first full week of school with performances near the end of October and the beginning of November.

Spring Musical: Ashley Bowen

323-5310

abowen@portageps.org

Each year the award-winning theatre department at Portage Central High School presents a Winter Musical for our community to enjoy. As a high school program, we view ourselves as an educational program that provides professional level opportunities for actors, technicians, and musicians. Past productions include Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Big Fish, Mamma Mia, and Anastasia. Portage Central Performing Arts also prides itself on producing area and national premieres of challenging pieces.