

UNION HIGH SCHOOL

**EXTRACURRICULAR  
ACTIVITIES**

**2014-2015**

**Please refer to cable channel 34 and our  
website ([www.twpunionschools.org](http://www.twpunionschools.org)) for  
announcements regarding other activities  
at Union High School**

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## **UNION HIGH SCHOOL EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Participation in extracurricular activities is an important part of every student's education. Extracurricular activities build character and provide opportunities to develop leadership. College admission officers and employers review a student's academic record and participation in extracurricular activities. Every student is encouraged to actively participate in at least two extracurricular activities during the high school years.

Students at U.H.S. have the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of activities including a comprehensive athletic and music program, academic clubs, and service clubs. Club meetings and activities are broadcasted to all students during homeroom and are also printed in the Daily Bulletin. Additional information concerning activities can be obtained from the club advisor(s). The room number for each club advisor is included in this guide.

Students who have a particular interest and would like to start their own club should make an appointment to see the Counseling Supervisor either before or after school. At the time of the meeting, the following must be submitted for review:

- Name of club, purpose, and description of club activities;
- Name of faculty person willing to serve as club advisor; and
- List of students interested in joining the club.

**ANIME CLUB – ADVISOR: M. ATZBI**

**D219**

This club is for students who share an appreciation of Japanese Animation Art called anime. The purpose of the club is to understand and appreciate the art of telling stories using techniques like sequential art, storyboarding, etc. while incorporating Japanese anime styles. During club meetings, members will watch films and spend time drawing comics and illustrations. Also, members will read the latest news in anime and otaku (anime fan) world, listen to the latest anime albums, see anime art, and teach each other how to draw anime characters. Anime is technology-based, and the club will be brought to a new level through the creation of animated music videos (AMVS).

**BAND FRONT - ADVISOR: L. MULLER**

**A104**

**COLOR GUARD** - Color guard adds the visual effects to the Marching Band's field show using flags. All students are welcome and no audition is required.

**INDOOR GUARD** – The Indoor Guard members perform a flag show for competitions. Students must audition and auditions are open to all students.

**BROADCAST CLUB - ADVISOR: K. GAINEY**

**B102/CAST**

Students who are involved in the CAST program comprise this club. Students develop and tape school activities to be viewed on ED 2 in addition to programs for "Eye on U.H.S" and may assist with the WUNF Radio Show.

**CANNON - ADVISOR: J. LANGER/D. JONES**

**L102**

The Cannon is the student newspaper of Union High School. The paper is published four times during the school year. Students write the articles, create the layout, and typeset the copy. All students in grades 9 - 12 are welcome to join.

**CHALLENGE CLUB - ADVISOR: TBA**

Those students knowledgeable of trivia may join to compete with other club members and other school teams. Club competitions also include tournaments.

**CHEERLEADING VARSITY – ADVISORS: D. BOBERTZ,  
CHERYL FISKE**

**B125**

**CHEERLEADING JV – ADVISORS: G. FAIELLO**

The Varsity Cheerleading Squad is made up of students in grades nine through twelve. Tryouts are held in the early spring. Squad members are selected based on tryout scores. Practices begin following tryouts for the following year. Cheerleaders cheer at games for boys' and girls' soccer, boys' and girls' basketball, and football. They also perform at the Pep Rally scheduled for the fall.

**CHEMISTRY OLYMPICS – J. KRONIS**

**D217**

This chemistry competition is open to advanced chemistry students only. The statewide competition is held at NJIT in late May.

**CHESS CLUB - ADVISOR: A. BUTTERFIELD**

**L111**

All students are welcome to join. Beginners are taught how to play the game. Students with knowledge of the game are divided into groups according to their level of expertise. Tournaments are conducted using elimination rounds twice during the school year.

**DANCE CLUB – ADVISOR: N.PLACCA**

**CAFETERIA A**

**UHS Dance Club** is an extracurricular organization that provides opportunities for students to express themselves through dance. The purpose is to give students with an interest a place to learn, discuss, and share different dance styles. Among our dance genres are modern/contemporary, hip hop, various cultural dances, pop-locking, and breakdancing. We also feature the **UHS Step Team**. Students are taught a variety of skills such as hard work, respect, teamwork, dedication, and determination. We meet in Cafeteria-A after school every Tuesday and Thursday from 3pm to 4:30pm. We will perform several times throughout the year and possibly for the community.

**DEBATING CLUB - ADVISOR: S. HORN**

**B106**

Students will learn and practice the art of debating. The procedure for how to stage a successful debate will be covered along with elements of effective public speaking. Several debates are planned for the year.

**DECA - ADVISORS: D. CUNIGLIO/A. ECKERT**  
**G112/G113**

The marketing education program offers participation in DECA, An Association of Marketing Students. Involvement in DECA offers students leadership training and opportunities to demonstrate vocational skill proficiency by competing in local, state and national conferences. Through DECA, students also have the opportunity to participate in social functions, meet business leaders, and develop community awareness.

**ECOLOGY CLUB - ADVISOR: S. PIOTROWSKI**  
**D228**

Students interested in environmental issues and improvement of the environment are encouraged to join. The club participates in beach clean-ups, work on campus, and field trips. Fund raising activities to support ecology projects are also a part of club activities.

**ELECTRONICS CLUB - ADVISOR: L. GALLO**  
**G104**

Electronically inclined students get a chance to participate in building their own gadget as well as doing repair work and troubleshooting.

**FRENCH CLUB - ADVISOR: K.SAFRANEK**  
**L105**

The club maintains a variety of activities. These include “mini-fetes” (sampling French foods), fund raising, volleyball games, pen-pal exchanges, a coat drive for the homeless, etc. The French Club sponsors a child in Haiti and awards a scholarship through fund raising activities scheduled during the school year.

**FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA (FBLA)**  
**ADVISOR: R. FEDERER**  
**D206**

Students involved with and interested in business may join and participate in community service fund raising, competitions, and more. The Usher Squad is an additional activity of the FBLA.

**GERMAN CLUB - ADVISOR: L.GAGAN**  
**D225**

Twice a year, the German Club holds fundraisers in order to give a \$100 scholarship to a deserving student who studies the German language. The club also promotes a yearly Holiday Food Drive for the needy in the township. Additionally, the club participates in an annual volleyball night with the other language clubs at Union High School and in international food sampling festivals during the holiday season and at the end of the academic year. Other activities are geared to promote awareness and enjoyment of the German culture.

**GERMAN NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY – L.GAGAN**  
**D225**

Students who have completed three semesters of German while maintaining a 3.6 unweighted average in German classes with an overall cumulative unweighted 3.0 GPA may be inducted. The club recognizes high scholastic achievement in German studies and strives to promote interest in the study of German language, literature, culture, and civilization.

**HOSA/FUTURE NURSES - ADVISOR: D. SANTORA**  
**G108**

This club is involved in community service and educational projects relating to health education.

**INTERACT - ADVISOR: - E. BOFFA**  
**D206**

A service organization which concerns itself with the school, township, senior citizen groups, and all charitable organizations.

**INTERCULTURAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION (I.S.O)**  
**ADVISOR: TBA**  
**C127**

This club helps promote multicultural awareness in an atmosphere that encourages student interaction. Another goal of the club is to help students gain confidence in themselves and increase self-esteem. The club's main goal is to promote the acceptance of ethnic diversity and to make other students aware of customs and cultures of various nations.

### **INTERCULTURAL PLUS CLUB - TBD**

This club is designed to enhance the socialization skills and self-esteem of English as a Second Language (ESL) students. Students currently enrolled in ESL and also students who have exited ESL are invited to join. Students who maintain a cumulative unweighted G.P.A. of 3.0 and who have a 3.5 or better in ESL will be inducted as members.

### **KEY CLUB - ADVISOR: D. PRIETO/S. COURTNEY** **D205**

Key Club is a service organization for high school students, which operates under school regulations and draws its membership from the student body. Key Club is unique because it is sponsored by a local Kiwanis Club, composed of the leading business and professional people of the community. Key Club's objective is the development of initiative, leadership ability, and good citizenship practices. The club is different because it functions not only on the local level, but also on a district and international level. This highly developed structure provides programs, literature, and the opportunity to relate to teenagers from thirteen countries around the world. Key Club is the largest service organization of its kind with over 129,000 members in approximately 3,800 clubs.

### **LIBRARY CLUB: D. D'ELIA** **LIBRARY**

The Union High School Library Media Center sponsors a Library Club for any interested students. Members assist in reshelving books, reading shelves, and other assorted assignments as needed in the library media center. Students work during AM homeroom and after school during their assigned times. Club meetings are held monthly, with a schedule that will be announced at the beginning of the year. Occasional field trips are also planned.

### **LITERARY MAGAZINE – ADVISOR: D. BOBERTZ** **L110**

The literary magazine entitled “North 3<sup>rd</sup> Visions” is a collection of poetry written by students. Students interested in this club are encouraged to submit original poems and artwork for publication in the magazine. A magazine will be published twice a year. Students will also have an opportunity to enter poetry contests and attend poetry workshops. This club is open to all students.



**MARCHING BAND - ADVISOR: L. MULLER**  
**A104**

Marching Band is comprised of the band and the color guard. A student must play a musical instrument to be a part of the band. All students may join. A student does not have to take band as part of his/her schedule. Members of the band and color guard practice three times a week and perform at all football games. The band has been a competitive unit for fifteen years.

**MODEL UNITED NATIONS CLUB**  
**ADVISOR: C. FARONE**  
**D225**

The purpose of the club is to give students an opportunity to participate in a Model United Nations competition. Students are assigned a country and a committee: Economic and Financial; Legal; Political & Security; or Social, Humanitarian & Cultural. Each committee is assigned a problem in the form of a question. The student is expected to role play a representative of his/her assigned country and write a position paper answering the question. The Model U.N. is a three-day event. The first two days the students meet in their committees and represent their countries. The purpose is to arrive at a consensus resolution. The students use the skills of public speaking, persuasion, negotiations and compromise. The last day is the meeting of the General Assembly to vote on the resolutions. Awards are given to Best Delegations and Delegates. The students compete with other schools in the country. The club is open to all students.

**NATIONAL ART HONOR SOCIETY**  
**ADVISOR: D. ESQUIVEL**  
**D237**

Students in grades 10-12 who maintain a 3.0 average in visual arts classes may be inducted into this honor society. Ninth grade art students may join an art auxiliary group to work toward induction requirements. Members organize exhibits, participate in both county and state teen arts festivals, and conduct fund raisers to provide an art scholarship.

**NATIONAL FRENCH HONOR SOCIETY - ADVISOR: K. SAFRANEK**  
**C128**

Students who maintain good grades in French courses may be inducted into the honor society to enhance their knowledge of the French language and culture. Students who have completed three semesters of French while maintaining a 3.6 unweighted average in French classes with an overall, cumulative unweighted 3.0 GPA may be inducted.

**NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY- ADVISORS: S. MANGARELLA/  
K. SCHULMAN**

**L111**

See the 2012-13 Student Handbook for a description.

**NATIONAL SPANISH HONOR SOCIETY**

**ADVISOR: - E. FERNANDEZ**

**D227**

The purpose of the Sociedad Honorana Hispanica is to recognize high achievement in Spanish, and to foster dedication to the study of the Spanish language and Hispanic cultures. Through meetings, fundraisers and various other activities, social and service, the club aims to promote a continuity of interest in Hispanic studies and a sense of multicultural understanding. Students who have completed three semesters of Spanish while maintaining a 3.6 unweighted average in Spanish classes with an overall, cumulative, unweighted 3.0 GPA may be inducted.

**NEW JERSEY SCIENCE LEAGUE CHEMISTRY II TEAM**

**ADVISOR: W. EICHERT**

**D217**

Four tests in advanced chemistry will be administered after school at various sites during the months of January, February, March, and April. Membership is open to second year chemistry students.

**NEW JERSEY SCIENCE LEAGUE – PHYSICS TEAM**

**ADVISOR: T. KNIEDEL**

**D229**

Physics students may participate in Science League testing at host schools on the second Thursday in the months of January, February, March, and April.

**OPTIMIST CLUB - ADVISOR: K. BROOKS**

**D241**

This is a community service club that participates in activities such as food banks, sponsoring a child, and park clean-ups. The club also assists local government and organizations and functions to:

- Serve the local community with what is needed
- Aid and encourage the development of youth;
- Develop optimism as a way of life
- Build fellowship and friendship
- Improve international accord
- Promote good government

- Improve its members

The Optimist expresses his or her interest in the future by taking part in the meaningful activity of the Optimist Club.

**SEEKERS FELLOWSHIP – ADVISOR: P. BRIDGES**

**D244**

A student run non-denominational bible study and fellowship.

**SKI CLUB - ADVISOR: K. BROOKS**

**D241**

The Ski Club offers to its members the opportunity to explore the sport of skiing. The members will participate in a wide variety of activities that will improve their level of skiing and their awareness of skiing safety. Students who have demonstrated a responsible attitude are given the opportunity to participate in day and weekend trips to Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, and Canada. Membership is open to any student with an interest in learning to ski or improving skills.

**SPANISH CLUB/LA TERTULIA ESPANOLA**

**ADVISOR: A. PERALTA**

**L101**

The purpose of the Spanish Club is to augment a student's knowledge of the Spanish language and Hispanic culture. It also serves the community, school and various other social and service activities. The club also aims to promote multicultural values and appreciation of the language and culture.

**STUDENT COUNCIL–ADVISOR: V. MENJIVAR**

**B101**

The Union High School Student Council is comprised of three organizations:

1. The Executive Board is comprised of the president, vice-president, treasurer, recording secretary and corresponding secretary.
2. The Senate is comprised of senior, junior, sophomore, and freshman class officers and senators.
3. Representatives and Alternates are elected by students in their homeroom to represent the student body.

The purpose of this organization is to develop better attitudes, encourage good citizenship and promote harmonious relations throughout the entire school. The Student Council also provides orderly direction to school activities and works to promote the general welfare of the school. Student Council meetings are usually held twice a month during school. Senate meetings are held after school a few days prior to general meetings. The Executive Board meets every day before school. All class officers are expected to attend the Student Council meetings in addition to their own class meetings and all Senate meetings.

**TEEN FIT – ADVISOR: A. BOAKYE**

**C110**

**Teen Fit is an after school program offered two to three days a week. The objective of this program is to teach teenagers how to live a healthy lifestyle full of fitness and nutrition. Students will be taught according to New Jersey's physical education and health core curriculum standards 2.1-2.6.**

Student's weight and blood pressure will be monitored on a weekly basis. Students will participate in fitness activities such as: Pilates, yoga, step aerobics, weight lifting, power walking, bleachers, volley ball, fitness station, jumping rope, pedometer games, dancing, relay races, strength training, and handball. Students will also participate in nutrition classes, healthy cooking classes, weekly weigh-ins learning how to measure their (BMI), and an occasional field trip to discover how fitness can be entertaining in the outside world. Other fun and exciting activities include: a wall-a-thon, a cook-off, and an end of the year awards dinner. This is an exciting, educational exercise program! It's a great way to make great friends.

**TSA - ADVISOR: D. EBERENZ**

**G101**

Members will be involved in local and regional competitions related to vocational/technical activities.

**TWIRLING - ADVISOR: N. PLACCA**

**L108**

Twirlers perform at football games, pep assemblies, and parades. Tryouts are held in the spring and are open to all interested students in grades 9-12.

**YEARBOOK - ADVISOR: D. JONES**

Members of the yearbook staff are responsible for the preparation of the yearbook, which includes the following jobs:

- photographing and collecting photographs of school events;
- photographing teachers;
- designing all pages on the MacIntosh Quadra and submitting disks to Taylor Publishing in Dallas;
- reviewing and correcting proofs;
- selling ads for yearbook; and
- advertising and selling the yearbook.

The yearbook staff is open to all students. Positions are available for writers, photographers, and artists. Students are also needed for computer keyboard entry and to perform a variety of tasks related to the yearbook's preparation. Meetings are held after school.

## **Zombie Defense Council: ADVISOR: A.SELBY**

### **Mission Statement**

The Zombie Defense Council is an association of students with a common interest in zombies. The club performs charity work and other community service efforts. The club also discusses folklore and popular culture, creates apocalypse plans, trains using zombie simulation technology, networks with other clubs, and participates in other related activities.

Group Members: Approximately 35 students

Meeting / Room Number: Fridays in Room D244

### **Club Activities**

- Discussion Panel: Books, Comics, Movies, TV shows
- Learn how to behave and survive during a national tragedy
- Games: Board Games, Card Games, Video Games
- Learn to read basic maps
- (Halloween) Disperse fliers & candy dressed as zombies
- Trace the history of zombies in pop culture
- Apocalypse Party
- Zombie Run, Kean University

### **Charities**

- Ebola Epidemic Relief Fund
- St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital
- Wounded Warrior Project Charity
- American Red Cross

## **The Importance of Service Clubs and Activities in Evaluating Extracurricular Involvement**

Some clubs and extracurricular activities provide service to the school and/or community. Students can and do make a difference in their community through service related projects. Union High School students have participated in a wide variety of service projects including Toys for Tots campaigns, food drives, Habitat for Humanity activities,

and beach clean-ups. Some clubs even conduct fund raising activities to raise money for scholarships.

The benefits of volunteering are numerous. Students are encouraged to participate in service related activities and experience the personal rewards associated with helping others. Listed below are some clubs and extracurricular activities which provide service to the school or community:

- Key Club
- Usher Squad
- Optimist Club
- Interact Club
- Marching Band
- Ecology Club
- FBLA
- Peer Tutoring

## **Extracurricular Activities on Admission Decisions and Employment**

Participation in extracurricular activities makes a student a more attractive candidate for college admission. Active involvement in extracurricular activities helps develop interpersonal and leadership skills while uncovering special talents, interests, and strengths. Colleges review not only a student's academic record and achievements but also participation in useful and substantial extracurricular and co-curricular activities. The "quality not the quantity" of activities influences admission decisions. Admissions officers evaluate nonacademic pursuits and personal qualities by reviewing the extent of a student's involvement in and commitment to an activity. The degree of responsibility or leadership a student exhibits over the years of participation is also very important. Distinctions received in an activity and the intent by the student to continue extracurricular involvement at the collegiate level impacts on admission decisions. Colleges are looking for well-rounded students who are willing to contribute to the quality of student life on campus.

In a competitive job market, employers are also seeking young adults who demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills and leadership ability. Opportunities to enhance these skills are provided through extracurricular and co-curricular activities.