

# Eastchester Middle School

Handbook of Co-Curricular  
Clubs and Activities



**2022-2023**

**Eastchester Middle School**  
**Assistant Principal's Office**

Dear Parents and Students,

We are proud to offer an extensive extra- and co-curricular program at Eastchester Middle School. This program plays a key role in the overall social/emotional developmental and educational program at EMS. This handbook is provided as a guide to the many opportunities presented to our students for activities outside the classroom.

In this handbook, you will find descriptions of our many clubs and activities. As mentioned in our school's vision, *"we want our students to take risks, become well-rounded, and explore new opportunities."* It is our desire to provide a setting that allows for such exploration and establishes a framework in which students learn to make good choices based on personal knowledge and experience. The program described herein is indicative of our commitment to that goal. Students are welcomed and encouraged to seek out the many different experiences that are provided by our varied and diverse activities.

Thank you for taking the time to explore our co-curricular program. Please encourage your children to take full advantage of the many opportunities afforded them at EMS. We look forward to their continued growth and achievement.

Sincerely,



Jenelle Hindell  
Assistant Principal

*"Eastchester Middle School is committed to providing a rigorous academic program within a safe, supportive, and understanding learning community."*

## 2022-2023 Co-Curricular Descriptions

### Art Club – Ms. Reardon

The Art Club welcomes students who enjoy creating works of art in a relaxed atmosphere. Club members work individually on projects and also in groups. The yearly focus is determined by the interests of the club members. Students from all grades are encouraged to join.

### Chess Club – Mr. McGowan

The E.M.S. Chess Club provides a comfortable place for students to learn and play chess. Students can choose to play competitively, or just for fun. Several optional tournaments are held each year.

### Debate Club – Mr. Goldstein

The Middle School Speech and Debate Club provides students the opportunity to practice public speaking skills by participating in good-natured debates. Topics of the debates range from issues that students are concerned about here at EMS to more serious issues such as gun control and the death penalty. Emphasis is placed on developing techniques that enable students to feel more comfortable speaking in front of others. Debates are held approximately every three weeks. The two weeks leading up to each debate are used for research and preparation.

### History Club – Mr. McGowan

The History Club meets every Tuesday. We enjoy movies based on historical events, and use play acting and skits to showcase various people and events. The History Club also has guest speakers who speak to us on a variety of subjects. We have had police officers and fire fighters who were present at 9/11, as well as veterans who have served our country. We also learn the history of Eastchester, and often have the town Historian come and visit.

### International Club – Ms. Shay & Ms. Logan

International Club is designed to increase cultural awareness and foster intercultural friendships throughout the school community. Members learn about new cultures while sharing traditions of their own. Club meetings include participating in cultural activities, tasting ethnic foods, celebrating holidays and organizing and participating in the EMS International Night. All students are welcome!

### Intramurals – Mr. McGee & Mr. Waters

EMS Intramurals are an opportunity for students to participate in a variety of athletic activities with other EMS students. Activities vary by season.

### Jazz Band – Ms. Rende

Middle School Jazz Band meets every Tuesday after school and is open to students in grades 6-8 by audition only. It is a performance-based group exploring many different types of jazz music, culminating in two concert performances during the year.

### Jazz Co./Dance Club – Ms. Leone, & Ms. Monteiro

Jazz Co. is designed to encourage students to develop their abilities in dance. Students will sign up at the end of February and weekly workshops begin in March in preparation for the May show. The dance styles are mainly hip-hop and jazz.

**Newspaper Club** – Ms. Mejia

Our school newspaper provides information on many topics in a variety of ways. News stories will tell us what's happening on the local, state, national and international scenes. In addition, our school reporters cover sporting events, social happenings, fashion, and technology. Along with our reporters, photographers enhance our paper with many visual presentations. Our objective is to inform, interpret and entertain.

**Photography Club**- Mr. Boissonnault

Photography is much more than just having a camera and taking photos. Students in this club have opportunities to hone their skills by understanding and learning about what makes a good photograph, from composition to artistic expression. All levels of experience are welcome and membership is open to all students in grades 6-8 who are interested in photography.

**Players Club** – Ms. Bonner & Ms. Rende

The Middle School Players Club is designed to help students grow as performers and to learn the skills necessary to mount a production of a play. Auditions will be held in October and students who are cast will meet regularly throughout the fall and winter leading to opening night at the end of January. The stage is waiting for you! All it takes to make it in theater is for you to be yourself. Looking forward to seeing you there!

**Science Club** – Mrs. Wilson

*"Science is Fun! Science is Cool!"*

The Science Club will meet Thursday afternoon from 2:40-3:30 in room 203.

As a member of this club you will further explore Science. Science Club is open to all students in grades 6th-8th. Everyone with an interest in Science is invited. This time will be devoted to:

- Science Demonstrations
- Hands on Experiments
- Discussion about Science Current Events
- Discussions on Science Interests.

**Science Olympiad**- Ms. Lore and Mr. Boissonnault

Science Olympiad is like a sports team for science! In Science Olympiad, you will prepare for and compete in a regional competition against other schools in various science and engineering events. Events include building a bridge, being disease detectives, anatomy and physiology, meteorology, and storm the castle (building a catapult system).

**SPARC (After-School SPIRIT)**

SPIRIT is a 30-week after-school social, recreational program designed for students with special needs. Programs meet for one hour immediately after school dismissal. Specialists develop lesson plans for all activities, choosing instruction and components to assist students in developing appropriate personal skills; goals vary based on the functional and

social abilities of student groups. Students will be given time for unstructured mingling when appropriate and engage in goal-oriented activities. Topics of exploration include friendship skills, self-esteem, self-awareness, leadership skills, decision making, independence, community living skills, and techniques for dealing with socially challenging situations. meetings are held, along with fundraising, spirit week, and various school activities (i.e., dances, activity nights, holiday & athletic activities).

**Student Leadership Council Club** – Mr. Chertok & Ms. Logan

The Student Leadership Club is Eastchester Middle School's service learning after school program that involves students in community and school-based projects that lay the foundation for a life-long commitment to community service. Students involved in this program learn leadership skills, civic responsibility, and commitment to their school and community. Activities and projects focus on developing each student's leadership and decision-making skills. Activities center on helping others and building school spirit.

**Technology Club** – Mr. Boissonnault

The goal of the New EMS Technology Club is to increase student understanding of modern technology through discussion groups, demonstrations, and hands-on experiences. Membership is open to all students in grades 6-8 who are interested in working on experiments and projects.

**Washington Club** – Mr. Boissonnault

8th grade students are involved in the scheduling and the day-to-day planning of the Washington overnight field trip. Students will work with Mr. Boissonnault and the tour company to arrange touring schedules and student events during the trip. Students will also be involved in fund-raising and the designing of the official Washington tee shirt.

**Yearbook** – Ms. Vlad

The Yearbook Staff is responsible for putting together the entire yearbook. Every picture used for the candid photos and for the collages are taken by students. The whole staff then selects the layouts, pictures used, the dedication page, and "8th grade favorites" choices. They then create the yearbook page by page. Possible covers are created by our talented 8th graders, with the assistance of our art teachers and then the final selection is voted on by the staff.

# Eastchester Middle School

2022-2023

Co-Curricular/Extra Duty	Advisor/Co-Advisor	Advisor Name	Dates and Location
Art Club	Advisor	Ms. Reardon	Oct 13, 2022-End of school year 2023, room 101
Chess Club	Advisor	Mr. McGowan	Tuesdays Rm 232
Dance Club/Jazz Co.	Advisor	Ms. Leone & Ms. Monteiro	Interest meeting prior to February Break Rehearsals begin after February Break Grade levels meet on assigned rehearsal days Performance 5/16
Debate Club	Advisor	Mr. Goldstein	Tuesday in the Library
Director (MS Play)	Co-Advisor	Ms. Bonner & Ms. Rende	TBD as schedules are based around students availability - Typically Mon - Thurs after school
History Club	Advisor	Mr. McGowan	Wednesdays Rm 232
International Club	Co-Advisors	Ms. Logan Ms. Shay	Tuesdays Rm 264 starting Oct 4th
Jazz Band	Advisor	Ms. Rende	Thursdays in Room 113 (Band Room)
Modern Dance (3)	Advisor	Ms. Kearns, Ms. Martucci ,Ms. Monteiro	See Jazz Co
National Junior Honor Society	Advisor	Ms. VanTassell	TBD as members are not decided until after 1st semester
Newspaper Club	Advisor	Ms. Mejia	Tuesdays, Room 201. 1st meeting Wednesday, September 28. Tuesdays thereafter.
Photography Club	Advisor	Mr. Boissonnault	Thursdays Oct 6th Room 127
Science Club	Advisor	Ms. Wilson	09/19/22- Mondays Room 203
Science Olympiad	Co-Advisors	Ms. Lore & Mr. Boissonnault	Tuesdays, Room 119 beginning October 4th
Student Leadership Council	Co-Advisors	Mr. Chertok Ms. Logan	Wednesdays, Room 263 with possible meeting dates other times TBD
Science Olympiad	Co-Advisors	Ms. Lore & Mr. Boissonnault	Tuesdays, Room 119 beginning October 4th
Student Leadership Council	Co-Advisors Advisor	Mr. Chertok Ms. Logan	Wednesdays, Room 263 with possible meeting dates other times
Technology Club	Advisor	Mr. Boissonnault	Tuesdays October 4 Rm 127
Washington Club	Advisor	Mr. Boissonnault	Wednesdays October 5 Rm 127
Yearbook Club	Advisor	Ms. Vlad	Mondays starting Sept 12th 2:30pm