

# Cornwall Central High School



Clubs and Activities 2023-24

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## A cappella Club – Advisor: Mr. Ravinsky



The A cappella Club consists of two different A cappella groups. The all-male group "Treble in Paradise" and the all-female group "The Love Notes". These highly selective (by audition) groups rehearse several times throughout the week. The groups perform outside the school day at many community events. The students come up with many of the arrangements themselves. Advanced musical knowledge is necessary.



## All County Band (HS) – Advisor: Mr. Hoover

Members of the Concert and Jazz bands volunteer to audition and participate in this band. Members are required to audition and must be involved in band. Mr. Hoover is also the advisor for Area All State Band and NYSSMA Band.

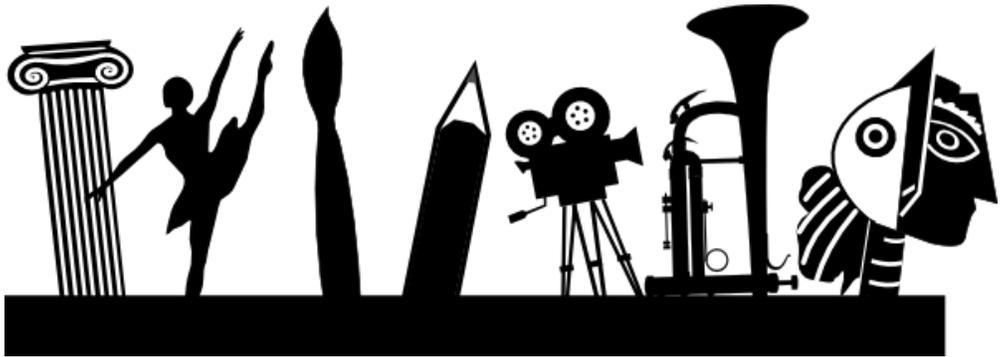
## All County Chorus (HS) – Advisor: Mr. Ravinsky

All County Chorus is sponsored by Orange County Music Educators Association and is auditioned for in the fall. All participants must be involved in their High School choir to participate in the weekend festival in January. This choir consists of the best singers in the county. Mr. Ravinsky also advises for Area All State Chorus and NYSSMA Chorus.



## **All County Orchestra (HS) – Advisor: Mr. Franca**

All County Orchestra is sponsored by Orange County Music Educators Association and is auditioned for in the fall. All participants must be involved in their High School Orchestra to participate in the weekend festival in January. This orchestra consists of the best musicians in the county. Mr. Franca is also the advisor for Area All State Orchestra and NYSSMA Orchestra.



## **Art Club – Advisors: Ms. Fiato & Mrs. Brassard**

Art club exists to help create a venue for current art students to deepen their explorations, and for non-art students to have a place to think, create and belong. Possible activities may include: community-based art both in and outside of the school, collaborative activities between the CCMS Art Club and CCHS, permanent school murals, creative fundraisers to bring students closer to museum experiences, collaborating with CCHS Drama Club to paint set designs and art making workshops. Art students, as well as those who cannot fit an art course into their schedule, are welcome to join.

## **Band Council – Advisor: Mr. Hoover**

The Band Council meets at least once a week before or after school. The Council consists of a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. The Concert Band members elect all officers. The four officers and Mr. Hoover coordinate the various performances of all the bands.



## **Best Buddies International – Advisors: Mrs. McInerney & Mrs. O’Connor**

**BEST BUDDIES**®



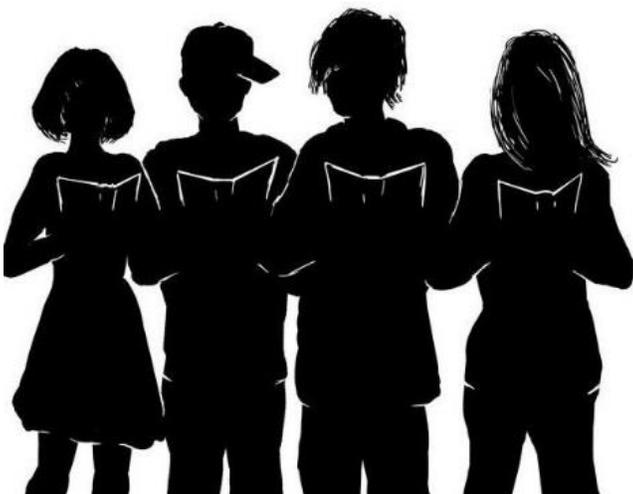
Best Buddies International is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment, leadership development, and inclusive living for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Our programs empower the special abilities of people with IDD by helping them form meaningful friendships with their peers, secure successful jobs, live independently, improve public speaking, self-advocacy and communication skills, and feel valued by society.

## **Chess Club & Chess Team – Advisor: Mr. Stack**

The Chess Club is open to all students who are interested in this fascinating and challenging game. Learn new strategies, the use of clocks, and variations such as “Bughouse” along with other students that love the game. Selected members may represent CCHS as members of the Chess Team in tournaments against other schools in the Mid-Hudson Scholastic Chess League.



## **Concert Choir – Advisor: Mr. Ravinsky**



Concert Choir is even more highly selective (by audition) and is the group that goes to competition and represents CCHS at all outside functions. This group practices one night a week throughout the year. Advanced musical knowledge is necessary. Students need to be enrolled in the choral program to audition for Concert Choir.

## **Drama Club – Advisors: Mr. Ravinsky assisted by Mr. Hines**



Drama Club creates and inspires interest in Theatre Arts, furthers dramatic expression and serves as a basis for school dramatics. Students in grades 9 – 12 interested in the theatre are welcome to audition for parts or volunteer to serve on the stage crew.

## **Dungeons & Dragons Club – Advisor: Mr. Mayer**

The Dungeons & Dragons Club’s primary goal is to educate any interested students in the game of Dungeons & Dragons as well as to begin to develop a community inside our district based around the game. To introduce new players, the club will hold various “workshops” in which members can learn the core mechanics of the game, and, for those who wish to learn to run their own games, other “workshops: will be held to describe the role of a Dungeon Master. Members who opt to be players will be more focused on the cooperation and the fundamentals of the team while those who choose to try and be a Dungeon Master will be more focused on creative storytelling. Since role-playing is such an important aspect of these games, improvised acting will be a core part of nearly every session held by the club.



## **Environmental Science /Organic Garden Club – Advisors: Mrs. Baloga assisted by Ms. Younie**

The Environmental/Organic Garden Club's goal is to raise awareness about environmental issues through community outreach, environmentally-themed fundraisers, and participation in caring for the CCHS outdoor garden. Team members will learn new ways to repurpose materials, cooperatively work outside, recycle, and most importantly take pride in the outside!



## Foreign Affairs Club – Advisor: Mrs. Finn

The Foreign Affairs Club meets regularly throughout the school year to prepare for participation in the World Affairs Council of America’s Academic WorldQuest competition. One of the greatest challenges facing our nation and our schools is preparing students for the globally interconnected world of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Academic WorldQuest is a unique opportunity to expose our students to the world outside our borders and prepare them for the challenges and the opportunities of the 21st Century. Students have an opportunity to explore the ten global issues of concern that have been selected for this year’s course of study and competition. The regional competition is held in March at the FDR Library and the national completion is held in Washington DC.



## GSA – Advisor: Mrs. Oles

The CCHS GSA is a club affiliated with the national GSA (Genders & Sexualities Alliance). Historically, the acronym has represented Gay-Straight Alliance but this language has been updated to better reflect the communities of young people running the clubs. Its goals are primarily to create safe environments in schools for students to support each other and learn about safe and positive ways to express their true inner selves, regardless of gender preferences. GSA strives to educate about homophobia and other instances of intolerance in the school community, ultimately to overcome them, as well as raise awareness in the school community about homophobia, transphobia, gender identity, and sexual orientation issues, and fight discrimination, harassment, and violence in schools. GSA welcomes everyone, and supports many activities within the school to promote peace, tolerance, and acceptance of others.

## HOSA (Heath Occupations Students of America) – Advisor: Mrs. Luetjen

HOSA is an after school medical club that focuses on educating students about different opportunities available to them in their community, and how to prepare for their future careers in any field or level of medicine. The club is an internationally recognized association for the advancement of those who are interested in pursuing any field in medicine from medical technicians to doctors. Many chapters participate in state and national competitions to showcase personal projects and research that they have conducted. If you’re interested in healthcare, join HOSA to get a view into the wonderful world of medicine!



## **Jazz Band/Jazz Combo – Advisor: Mr. Hoover**



Designed as a supplemental club ensemble for band, the Jazz Band introduces further opportunities for students to explore jazz instrumental techniques directly related to jazz, as well as use instruments and arrangements generally not used in regular band classes. Participants must be involved in their High School Band to participate in festivals and must audition to become a member of Jazz Band and All County Jazz Band.

## **Key Club – Advisor: Mrs. Hines**

Key Club is the high school branch of the Kiwanis Club, which is a philanthropic organization that raises money and awareness for worthy causes. We solicit donations and participate in walks for organizations such as the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the American Cancer Society, and the March of Dimes. We assist in the community where volunteer staff is needed. Meetings are held twice monthly and events are usually on weekends. It is the responsibility of the participant to provide transportation to and from the event. There is an international membership fee of \$13.00. This money goes directly to the parent organization. For this fee, students receive a pin, a newsletter and a membership card.



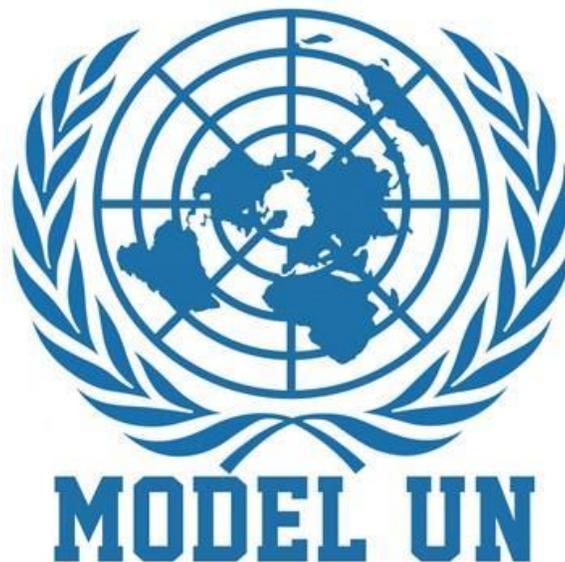
## **Math Team – Advisors: Mr. Cerbino & Mrs. Dolan**

The Dutchess Ulster Sullivan Orange (DUSO) Math League team is comprised of **mathletes**. They are students who love a competitive problem solving environment. The members of this team also exhibit a solid knowledge of math concepts and skills. They enjoy being challenged at all levels. CCHS Math Team competes five times from October to March. There is one statewide competition in April.



## **Model UN – Advisor: Mr. Whelley**

Model UN is a popular activity for those interested in learning more about how the UN operates. The aim is to build and maintain strong links between the UN and Model UN participants across the globe. Through guides and workshops, the goal is to teach students how to make their simulations more accurate. Often done by visiting Model UN conferences and sharing firsthand knowledge of what the actual UN is like, the end goal is to encourage Model UN clubs to take real action to support UN values and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



## **Morgan’s Message – Advisor: Mrs. Oles**

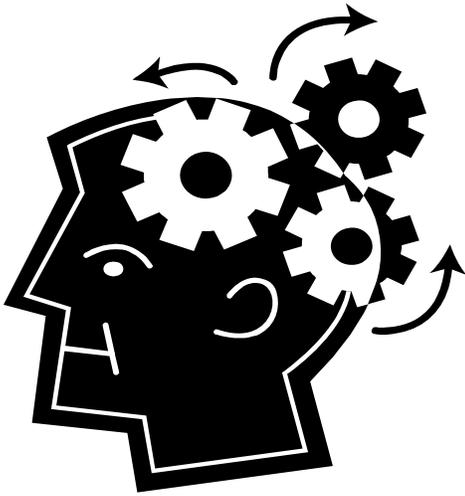


Morgan’s Message goal is to eliminate any stigma and expand the dialogue on mental health within the student-athlete community by normalizing mental health conversations, giving a sense of empowerment for those who may suffer in silence, and supporting those who feel alone. Members must be 14 years old or older to join.

## **National Honor Society – Advisor: Ms. Younie assisted by Ms. Lupi**

The Cornwall Central High School Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) opens its membership to Juniors and Seniors who have achieved a 92% academic (unweighted) average or a 95% academic (weighted) average, have a proven service record, are leaders in school and community, and, underlying all, have outstanding character. The Faculty Council approves students’ attributes. Once accepted, a minimum of four hours of community service and an hour of tutoring per month is required.





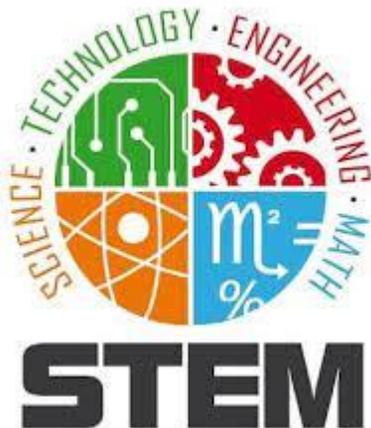
## **Orange County Academic League – Quiz Bowl - Advisor: Mr. Cook**

This club is a county wide activity. Students who have a particular interest and ability in certain subject areas are encouraged to join the Quiz Bowl team. Competitions are held between schools in which students go head to head with teams from other schools in Orange County in a Jeopardy like question and response format. The topics of the questions range from history and arts to science, math and literature.

The advisors for the club look to have a balance of students who can answer a wide variety of question types. The meets are a lot of fun as the best and brightest mix it up in friendly competition. The club begins in October and runs through March.

## **Safe School Ambassadors – Advisors: Mrs. O’Connor & Ms. Gianiodis**

The Safe School Ambassadors® (SSA) program empowers leaders from the diverse groups and cliques on the high school campus and equips them with nonviolent communication and intervention skills to stop bullying and violence among their peers.



## **STEM Club – Advisors: Mr. Zottola & Mrs. Luetjen**

STEM CLUB will give students a place to explore, create, and innovate with hands-on, inquiry-based, open-ended making activities and/or challenges that incorporate circuits, sensors, and IoT. Participants will use hardware/computer, various sensors and circuit boards for physical computing, and will also fly unmanned indoor drones to complete missions.

## **Self-care Club – Advisor: Ms. Gianiodis**

The purpose of this club is to support one another and develop self-care/mindfulness strategies in order to help reduce stress, and manage our responsibilities in a healthy and effective way. This club will provide students with a nurturing environment through which they can learn about and practice different self-care/mindfulness techniques such as but not limited to: breathing exercises to relieve stress, gratitude exercises (to help refocus their mindset), positive writing activities, reading uplifting/hopeful literary pieces, and supportive peer discussions. Our goal is to support one another, connect, and have fun! Students will be encouraged to share the strategies they learn with others as well, and in doing so they can develop healthy emotional empowerment skills that will benefit them in high school, and beyond.



## **Sewing Club – Advisor: Ms. Byassee**

CCHS Sewing Club is a fun and relaxing activity open to anyone who wants to learn how to hand sew, embroider, or mend clothes. If you have ever wanted to sew a button, fix a rip, hem your pants, or update thrift shop finds, this club is for you! Learning to sew is a fun and important skill that lets you express your individual style and helps the environment by saving clothes from the landfill.

## **Spirit Club – Advisors: Mrs. Perugini & Mrs. Kelly**

The Varsity/School Spirit Club is an organization dedicated to promoting the leadership abilities of Varsity athletes and good morale in the student body. It is open to all grades levels. Members work in conjunction with the Athletic Department to promote the importance of scholastic sports. Projects include Pep Rallies, fund raising for a scholarship fund, organizing activities to foster school spirit and promote the health and well-being of our student body. Elected officers will include President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.



## **Student Government Organization – Advisors: Mrs. Chyla & Mr. Ponsolle**

SGO is the central organization at CCHS through which all students in grades 9 – 12 are represented. Delegates comprised of elected class officers and other students meet regularly to discuss and act on student concerns, coordinate student activities, and organize activities that promote school spirit. SGO is committed to providing a positive climate in which the student body can learn and socialize



## **Writing Club – Advisor: Mrs. Rose**

The writing club is a safe space for ALL writers to come and write for fun! In a supportive and accepting community, members will explore the writing process together. We will provide writing seeds that allow authors to delve into multi-genre writing, such as poetry, short stories, personal narrative, etc. We will empower our author voices by publishing our work throughout the year in a digital anthology. The club will begin in the last week of September and end in May. Come be inspired by our aspiring writers!



## **Yearbook - Advisors: Mrs. Perugini & Mrs. Moran**

The Yearbook staff produces the yearbook every year. This activity offers opportunities for writers, photographers, artists, and salespersons to develop their talent in an imaginative way all while creating the yearbook.



## **Youth-in-Government – Advisors: Ms. Byassee assisted by Mr. Cook**

This is one of the school's longest running clubs and it is a countywide activity. Students who participate in the program are encouraged to join a mock political party and to be involved in two political conventions during the program. The first convention is The Platform Convention in which each party organizes committees to craft legislation on current issues which face all three levels of government. The second convention is the Steering Convention, which acts as a party primary election for a slate of government offices. Students create speeches that speak to their understanding of the issues that are managed by a particular government representative in the hope of being nominated by their party for the general election between the two political parties. Club activities start at the beginning of the school year and run through November. This is a fun and easy club to be a member of and students frequently return year after year once they participate for the first time in Youth in Government.





**Freshman Class of 2027 – Advisors:  
Mrs. Schebesta & Mrs. Oles**

The Freshman Class at Cornwall Central High School participates in many school activities and is involved in extensive fundraising. Being a Freshman Class officer or board member offers excellent leadership opportunities and a chance to make new connections with other class officers and participants at every grade level. Fundraising activities include: holidays, t-shirts, and bake sales but we are always looking for new and innovative ideas. All funds that are raised benefit the Freshman Class and are used to help pay for Junior and Senior activities such as Prom and Senior field day. Other class activities include planning homecoming events, participating in the Student Government Organization and working with the CCHS Parent Teacher Student Organization. If you are creative, hardworking, and dedicated this is the club for you!



**Sophomore Class of 2026 –  
Advisor: Mrs. Liebler**

The entire Sophomore Class is invited to help in fundraising activities to ensure an excellent Junior and Senior year. Remember, the more funds we raise now, the better off the class will be for the next two years! This year is especially exciting because it is the year that students receive their class rings. We have many other fundraising activities planned and love to hear new ideas and insight on how to make your Sophomore Class an unforgettable year.

## **Junior Class of 2025 – Advisors: Mrs. Brassard & Mrs. Finn**

Class officers are elected to represent the Junior Class voice, however, the entire Junior Class is needed to help make this an eventful and fun year! Each year the Junior Class is responsible for planning all details for the Junior Prom and paving the way towards a successful senior year. There will be fundraising and activities planned to help move towards these goals. The Junior Class relies heavily on the input of its class members. Class unity in working toward these goals is essential for success.



## **Senior Class of 2024 – Advisors: Mrs. Chyla & Mr. Ponsolle**

Congratulations! You've made it! You're a Senior! Get ready for a great year of raising lots of money through numerous fundraisers and having fun doing it. A semi-formal, 100 Nights to Graduation, just to name a few. Help your classmates plan the prom of the century. Get involved! Help make your Senior year the best it can be.



**PARENT/GUARDIAN AND STUDENT PARTICIPANT PERMISSION/COMMITMENT FORM**

Student Participant Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Extra/co-curricular activity/activities (Please Print ALL):  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION**

*Please check each box to indicate your agreement to each of the following statements:*

- The above named student has my permission to participate in the above-mentioned extra/co-curricular activity/activities.
- I have read and agree to the Rules and Regulations of the extra/co-curricular activities and will support the program in assuring that my son/daughter adheres to these rules and practices.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**STUDENT-PARTICIPANT COMMITMENT AND PLEDGE**

*Please check each box below to indicate your agreement to each of the following statements:*

**As a Cornwall Central School District Extra/Co-curricular Participant, I understand that:**

- Participating in any extra/co-curricular activity requires a commitment to the highest standards of mental and physical fitness. Insuring the highest level of performance requires a year-round commitment to these activities.
- I understand the foregoing statements and having read and understood the Rules and Practices of the Extra/Co-curricular Activities and the Participation Rules and I will abide by all of the Rules and Practices of the Program for the participation time.
- I understand that I must maintain all academic and attendance expectations for classes and school. Failure to do so may result in administrative review of Extra/Co-curricular Activities and academic and attendance monitoring, as well as preventing participation in Extra/Co-curricular Activities if these standards are not met or improved.
- Engaging in the use of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs, along with e-cigarettes and ‘vaping’ of any kind is inconsistent with maintaining these high standards of commitment. I will refrain from the purchase, possession consumption or sale of Alcohol, tobacco or other drugs including E-Cigarettes or ‘vaping’ of any kind (except for legitimate medical reasons; ie. Doctor’s Note) from the first day of participation through the last.
- I understand that failure to abide by this pledge will result in forfeiting my privilege of participating in any Extra/Co-curricular Program for the period specified in the Participation Rules: Violations.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student-Participant Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**