



**BHS Expanded Learning**

Explore - Connect - Empower

## **Program Descriptions 2025- 2026**

**Art Studio:****Advisor: Lorien Leyden and Ducky Jones****Meets: Room 231A Mondays from 3:30-4:30**

Art club provides a relaxed space where students can work on personal art projects or get assistance with art class assignments. Materials are provided.

**BHS Heroes Club****Advisor: Dan Gavin****Meets: Room 254 Thursdays from 3:30-4:30**

BHS Heroes is the school's community service club. On average, BHS Heroes helps to organize five community service opportunities for the student body to participate in each year. Students are not required to earn their service hours just through events offered through BHS Heroes. Some organizations BHS Heroes has worked with are Spectrum Youth & Family Services (Sleep Out), Vermont Children's Trust Foundation (Polar Express), American Red Cross (blood drives), and the Vermont City Marathon, to name a few.

**BHS Drama Club**

There are three "seasons" of Drama at Burlington High School. Two seasons, the One Act Play Festival and the Musical are open to all students and no cuts are made. Anyone who wishes to participate and be a member of the cast may do so. Anyone wishing to participate in stage construction and stage crew is also welcome to join the production. The rehearsal schedules are posted each Monday for the week. Rehearsals can be from 3:30-5:30. This all depends on the individual directors who must learn to schedule rehearsals for characters or scenes. There is one Sunday rehearsal just before production week.

**Chess Club****Advisor: Michelle Sagalchik****Meets: Wednesdays in room 135 at 3:30**

Chess Club meets once a week. All students regardless of their chess abilities are welcome to join! No pre-registration is required. Students may also participate in regional chess tournaments at UVM and with Stowe Scholastic Chess.

**Chill Board Sports**

In partnership with Burton and The Chill Foundation, Chill programs consist of experiential learning activities, reflection, and discussion, paired with boardsport lessons. Chill's six core values provide youth with a foundation and framework for learning and growth, supported and enhanced through progression in boardsports skills and adult mentorship. Chill strives to remove all barriers to accessing boardsports by providing youth with everything they need to get after it, at absolutely no cost. New skills gained through boardsport skills progression and core-value exploration are then directly applied to everyday life, challenging youth to step out of their comfort zone – both on and off their board. **Limited Space**

### **Philosophy Club**

**Advisor: Tyler Dogget (UVM Professor)**

**Meets Mondays/Tuesdays at 3:30, Room 239**

In Philosophy club, students discuss philosophical ideas and concepts. Topics are chosen by student interest. Students also read through additional material and help to organize events for Public Philosophy week in the spring. Philosophy club also features many guest speakers from the UVM philosophy department who speak on their specialties.

### **Debate Club**

**Advisor: TBA**

**Meets: Fridays at 3:30 in Room 252**

Debate is a way to grapple with important current events through critical thinking; research; argumentation; teamwork; and structured, civil conversation. It is about understanding and communicating different perspectives, skills that every person can use in their life and job, not to mention our democratic society. Students with any level of experience—including none at all!—are encouraged to join the BHS Debate Club. During practices (which will begin in October), we will learn how to prepare speeches as well as present and respond to arguments. From November to March, you will pair up with a teammate and compete in tournaments against other high schools across Vermont, culminating in the State Championships held at the Capitol in Montpelier. All you need to bring is an open mind, a positive attitude, and a willingness to put in the work...while having plenty of fun!

### **Detour Art Magazine**

**Advisor: Shannon Walters**

**Meets: Tuesdays at 3:30 in the Computer Lab of the Library**

Detour is Burlington High School's Literary and Arts Magazine. All are welcome to participate and submit original pieces of visual art and or poetry, short stories or essays. Detour is published twice a year.

### **Dungeons and Dragons**

**Advisor: Josepha Austin and Mason DeVries**

**Meets: Tuesdays/Thursdays at 3:30 in room 251**

Do you love fantasy, science fiction, video games, comic books, reading, writing, and telling stories or even just letting your imagination run wild? Do you like meeting new people and playing fun, exciting games? Then you need to check out the Dungeons and Dragons club!! Dungeons and Dragons (AKA D&D) is the world's oldest and bestselling roleplaying game, where players create and direct their own characters in a collaborative storytelling experience. You use many-sided dice and your wits to solve diabolical puzzles, overcome vicious monsters, and wield mighty weapons and powerful spells. If you're already playing in a campaign, that's awesome! The D&D club is here to help you find space and resources to take your game to the next level. Never played D&D and not sure where to start? D&D club is a perfect place to learn the game, meet other players, and get involved in one the most popular and fun games of all time. Come check it out!

### **Coding Club**

**Advisor: Nora LaCasse and Shannon Walters**

**Meets: Thursdays at 3:30 in room 144**

In Coding Club, students work on coding projects and are part of a global network of other clubs. This is a great opportunity for students to expand their skills in computer programming in a fun and supportive environment. For 2025-2026 we are considering branching into robotics.

### **Green up Club:**

**Advisor: Jory Hearst**

**Meets: Tuesdays - events throughout the year.**

Green up club is a student led organization for cleaning up public spaces in Burlington. Trash picking up gear is provided and the club rotates through different parks and public spaces throughout the fall and spring. Students can earn volunteer hours through green-up club. This year, Green-Up Club will also be working to plan on improving BHS's trash disposal processes through the SCRAPI grant.

### **Outing Club**

**Advisor: Laura Sercel**

**Meets: Special events throughout the year.**

The BHS Outing Club's goal is to involve Burlington students in the nature surrounding them by providing accessible and interesting outdoor learning experiences. Activities include Hiking, Sailing, and Indoor Rock Climbing.

1st Event This Year: Goat Yoga at New Village Farm, Shelburne, on **September 27th**

### **Pep Band:**

**Advisor: Kate Stein**

**Meets: Thursdays in Band Room**

Pep Band is a program for students interested in helping represent our school through music. The Band practices weekly and performs before events like sports games and the annual Macy's Day Parade.

### **Poetry Club**

**Advisor: Tammie Ledoux-Moody**

**Meets: Tuesdays at 3:30 in room 125**

Poetry Club meets weekly to analyze and discuss poetry, as well as helping students hone their skills in writing their own poetry. The club also helps organize the Poetry Out Loud events throughout the year.

### **Homework Center**

**Tutors: Norm Tremblay, Nicole Schoen, Andrew Grant, Paul Jones**

**Meets:** Monday through Thursday from 3:30 - 5:00 pm in the Library

The Homework Center, located in the BHS library, provides academic support, homework help and tutoring. The Homework Center is staffed with a school day Math teacher, English Language teacher, Science teacher and a member from the student support team. All students are enrolled and encouraged to attend on a drop in basis as needed.

### **International Club**

**Advisor: Susan Blethen**

**Meets: Fridays at 3:30 in room 120**

The International Club is a student-run organization whose members explore different cultures and set an annual social mission. Some examples of our social mission projects are reading to end racism with local elementary students, sponsoring dinners with guest speakers to discuss immigration policy, creating the All are Welcome symbol to display in businesses and medical offices. We have also raised money for Nepali

earthquake survivors, tuition for girls in Ethiopia and Afghanistan, for Doctors Without Borders, and for Mercy Corp to distribute to Yemeni refugees.

### **Junior Milers**

**Advisor:** Ryan Nest and Taylor Stone in partnership with RunVermont

**Meets:** Seasonal starting in the Spring

For over 15 years RunVermont has offered Junior Milers, a 12-week training program, for youth age 11 – 18 to participate in the relay portion of the [People's United Bank Vermont City Marathon & Relay](#). During the program, participants learn about running and related topics such as nutrition, sports psychology, the musculoskeletal system, pedestrian safety, and internet safety.

### **Math League**

**Advisor:** Norm Tremblay

**Meets:** During School Day

Math League is a competitive math event where students practice math problem solving in order to compete at events against other schools. Throughout the year, Math League travels to compete in events across Vermont.

### **Model UN**

**Advisor:** Sean Fleming

**Meets:** Tuesdays at 3:30 in room 142

In Model UN, students are assigned to represent countries and tackle geopolitical questions through in depth simulations of the United Nations. This is a great opportunity for students to learn about the international world and some principles of politics and negotiations.

### **Open Library**

**Advisor:** Shannon Walters

**Meets:** Fridays from 3:30-5:00

The library stays open on Fridays afterschool so that students can access Library makerspace tools: computers, laser cutter, vinyl cutter for stickers, video tools; or meet with friends; work on school work; play computer games ... or just curl up with a good book!

### **Rowing**

**Advisor:** Benjamin Mayock

**Meets:** Mondays and Wednesdays at 3:30 at Perkins Pier in Fall/Spring

In Partnership with with Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, BHS Rowing meets twice a week in the Fall and Spring. Rowing focuses on team building and healthy physical

activity. All students are welcome to participate with the slogan “You Show, You Row”. Students participate in local races as well as the Fall season closing race in Boston.

**First Practice: September 10th**

### **Scholar’s Bowl**

**Advisor: Kevin Commo**

**Meets: Tuesdays in room 255 from 3:30-5:00**

Scholars' Bowl is a question-and-answer academic competition, somewhat similar to Jeopardy!, but contested by teams of students. Questions cover all subjects in the school curriculum and also include some pop culture so there's material for everyone. The BHS team typically participates in around 10 competitions around the state each year and all students are welcome to join.

### **Student Planning Club**

**Advisor: Bowen Stephens**

Help us build our Seahorse Nation by joining the Student Planning Club. Student planning coordinates student-organized school events and fundraisers (homecoming week, winter ball, custodial appreciation, superfan/ senior shirts, prom, and much more!!) BHS is your home away from home! Let's work together to make sure it's an inclusive, thoughtful, and fun community! We need your voice! Join today!

### **Unified Sports (Bowling, Basketball, Fitness, Bocce)**

**Advisor: Michael Leonard, Taylor Stone, Taylor Gagne**

**Meets: Wednesdays at 3:30**

Unified Sports is a partnership with the Special Olympics Vermont providing athletic experiences for students of all physical and intellectual abilities. Student leaders known as “partners” help facilitate the program and develop relationships with other students. Goals are to promote friendship, improve skills, and encourage independence.

### **World Building Club**

**Advisor: Mr. Jones/ Ms. Walters**

**Meets: Fridays in the Library**

World Building Club is a student-led club for students who are interested in collaboratively building a fantasy world. Students make maps, write stories, and create artwork around their shared world.