

HADDONFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL
ACTIVITIES & SPORTS HANDBOOK SELECTION GUIDE 2026-2027



Dear Students and Parents/Guardians of Grades 6, 7, and 8:

We are proud to present our activity and athletic offerings for the 2026-2027 school year. Please take time to review the selections. We encourage all students to participate.

Each activity & athletic meeting times are subject to change and will be advertised to students during Morning Announcements. Activity advisors make every effort to communicate changes with student members. Please note that after school activities are closed when school is closed and are not held on half days.

Students should remember that homework comes first and should consider homework and other time demands when making their selections. Unless selection procedures are specified, a student can join a club or activity at any time.

However, in order to participate in athletics, one must complete and submit an online Athletic Registration to participate in sports, including intramural sports. Click on the district [Athletics Link](#) on the Haddonfield Home Page and click on [Sports Physical Forms](#).

Please be informed that a yearly activity fee is required for participation in sports & activities offered at HMS as follows:

Participation in:	Amount	Family Maximum at HMS
Activities Only	\$125	\$200
Athletics only or Activities that require transportation*	\$150	\$225
Athletics AND Activities	\$175	\$250

**Battle of the Books & Sea Perch*

Payment can be made through the Schoolbucks portal located on the HMS website. Payment can also be made via check payable to: HMS and send it in with the (completed) form located on the last page.

We look forward to a very exciting and fun-packed yearlong program. If you have any ideas or suggestions for improvement, we welcome them!

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael McHale, Principal mmchale@haddonfield.k12.nj.us 856-429-5851, ext 2222

Mr. Shane Rubin, Assistant Principal srubin@haddonfield.k12.nj.us, 856-429-5851, ext 2225

Middle School Philosophy for Activities and Participation

The activity and athletic programs of Haddonfield Middle School help students to develop a positive self-image, foster a sense of belonging, and increase student interest and participation in extracurricular activities that will extend into high school, college, and community. In addition, the programs are designed to foster the development of life-skills, positive values, leadership, service, and healthy habits, so that personal growth and development results with an emphasis on skill development and improvement, personal best, cooperation and team spirit, rather than focus on the high levels of performance/competition. Activities, Clubs, and Athletic Programs offer opportunity and instruction to any and all interested students at a developmentally appropriate level.

BELIEFS THAT GUIDE OUR PROGRAM AND PRACTICE

We believe that we have the responsibility to treat each person with respect.

We believe that nurturing creativity is a critical element in the learning process.

We believe that service to others promotes the social, emotional, and intellectual growth of the individual.

We believe that schools share the responsibility with family and community in promoting positive social skills.

We believe that every person has the right to a safe and nurturing environment.

We believe that learning is a lifelong process.

We believe that every person can learn and every person learns differently. We believe that all people have the right to achieve their individual potential.

We believe that the quality of education depends upon the quality of the teachers, advisors, and coaches.

We believe that valuing diversity enriches learning.

We believe that the inclusion of special needs students in regular education classrooms enriches every child's education.

We believe that we have a responsibility to teach and model ethical behavior.

SCHOOL SPONSORED ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

Requirements for Participation:

1. A valid School Health Examination dated after June 1st on file with the school nurse
2. A completed Medical Questionnaire online form
3. A signed Parent Permission online form
4. A signed Parent/Student-Athlete Expectation online form
5. A maintained academic eligibility
6. A paid activity fee

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory for all practice meetings and games. Each student athlete has an obligation to attend every team session. If a student athlete must miss a practice, the student athlete must notify the head coach in person no later than the previous day. An absence will result in the athlete not being permitted to play in the next game/meet.

Attitude:

Come to practice with a good attitude. Understand that the coaches are there to make you and the team better. Listen to corrections and do not take constructive criticism personally. Coaches and athletes are all striving to reach the same goals, by working together you will attain your goals.

Behavior:

Student athletes should abide by school rules and standards of behavior. Deviation from these rules may lead to dismissal from the team.

Communication:

Communication is of utmost importance for a successful program. Student athletes must display the ability to take direction, to get along with teammates and the coaching staff, and to share information and concerns. Parents should ask questions and keep the coaching staff informed of student issues that arise during the season.

Athletic schedules are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, schedule changes, locations and directions visit district [Athletics Link](#) on the Haddonfield Home Page and select the appropriate season and sport.

Transportation:

Transportation will be provided to all away events. All student athletes are expected to travel on the team bus. Exceptions may be granted in emergencies and only parents/guardians can drive their own children. The procedure is to seek permission of the head coach, with a written request

from the parent/guardian. These requests must be made at least 24 hours in advance, except in extenuating circumstances.

HMS Music Programs During the School Day & Evening Concerts

No Fee Required

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>Music Teacher</u>
<u>CHORAL: 6TH GRADE</u> ensemble is to continue the development of vocal technique for all interested singers and to perform. Sixth Grade Choir takes two trips during the school year, one for a local winter performance and the other to Rowan University to participate in a choral festival. This ensemble also performs in the Sixth Grade Winter and Spring Concerts. Students are also encouraged to audition for state and regional choirs for advanced singing opportunities; this is an optional part of the program. Sixth Grade Choir is for those who really enjoy singing!	Ms. Thomas
<u>CHORAL: 7TH & 8TH GRADE</u> perform at school concerts in December and May, community functions, middle school promotion, mall concerts, and a Hershey Park festival. Students can audition for All South Jersey regional ensembles and eligible students may participate in the Camden County Arts 4 Teens Festival. Students must make a yearlong commitment to attend all rehearsals and performances.	Ms. Thomas
<u>CONCERT BAND: 6TH GRADE</u> ensemble encourages students of all playing levels to join. Students perform at school concerts, community functions, middle school promotion, mall concerts, and at an annual Hershey Park Festival. Students can audition for All South Jersey regional ensembles and eligible students may participate in the Camden County Arts 4 Teens Festival. Small group lessons are offered to instrumental students who participate. Lessons are given on a rotating basis to ensure minimal impact upon academic and associative arts classes. Students should have an instrument to use during lessons, rehearsals, performances, and for home practice. Students must commit quarterly for this program.	Mr. Hecker
<u>CONCERT BAND: 7TH & 8TH GRADE</u> ensemble encourages students of all playing levels to join. Students perform at school concerts, community functions, middle school promotion, mall concerts, and at an annual Hershey Park Festival. Students can audition for All South Jersey regional ensembles and eligible students may participate in the Camden County Arts 4 Teens Festival. Small group lessons are offered to instrumental students who participate. Lessons are given on a rotating basis to ensure minimal impact upon academic and associative arts classes. Students should have an instrument to use during lessons, rehearsals, performances, and for home practice. Students must commit quarterly for this program.	Mr. Hecker

ORCHESTRA is a string ensemble. Students must either play or have the desire to learn how to play a stringed instrument. Students perform at school concerts, community functions, middle school promotion, mall concerts, and at an annual Hershey Park Festival. Students can audition for All South Jersey regional ensembles and eligible students may participate in the Camden County Arts 4 Teens Festival. Small group lessons are offered to instrumental students who participate. Lessons are given on a rotating basis to ensure minimal impact upon academic and associative arts classes. Students should have a string instrument to use during lessons, rehearsals, performances, and for home practice. Students must commit quarterly for this program.

Mr. Hecker

HMS SPORTS, CLUBS & ACTIVITIES - ACTIVITY FEE IS REQUIRED

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>ADVISOR(S)</u>
<u>BATTLE OF THE BOOKS</u> encourages reading for pleasure, broadens reading interest, and recognizes students who enjoy reading. Students participate in teams of four to six members who read a selection of books over a period of months. The students discuss them, quiz each other on the contents, and then compete together to correctly answer questions based on the books. Students compete against other teams in HMS as well as schools throughout Camden County and Southern New Jersey. The state-wide program involves a cooperative effort by many individuals and The New Jersey Association of School Librarians (NJASL). It is always popular with students and has provided new opportunities for academic competition. Battle of the Books has proven itself to be effective in stimulating and motivating an interest in reading.	Ms. Guttadauria Ms. Wolfe Meeting: Time: Location:
<u>BULLDAWG BULLETIN JR.</u> is an opportunity for students who enjoy writing to learn techniques of journalism. Students work collaboratively at individual work sessions (by appointment) with the advisor, Mrs. Sanchirico, to produce the school newspaper. Aspiring journalists with a love of writing, a sense of curiosity, and a nose for news can contact Ms. Saffos in room 161 to discuss possible articles on newsworthy school or community issues or unique feature stories on local people and topics.	Ms. Saffos Meeting: Time: Location:
<u>BULLDAWG BUDDIES (No Place for Hate)</u> - is a student-centered framework from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) that helps K-12 schools fight bias and bullying to create a more inclusive and respectful environment. The initiative works by engaging students, faculty, and family members in taking a stand against hate, often by implementing three school-wide anti-bias activities per year and promoting a unified message of respect and allyship. The goal is to empower the entire school community to foster a culture where all students feel safe, belong, and can thrive.	Ms. Miller Time: Location:
<u>COMPUTER STRATEGY CLUB</u> is a place for students to connect with others who share a love of games and technology. Bring your Chromebook or Nintendo Switch to play school-appropriate games like Mario Kart, chess, and more. Members can enjoy friendly competition, share strategies, and collaborate with peers who have similar interests	Ms. Garcia Meeting: 2x per month on Mondays 2:50 Location: Rm 59

<u>DIVERSITY CLUB</u>	Ms. Sanchez Ms. Miller Time: Location:
<u>DRAMA</u> members present a play in the Fall (September to October) and Spring (January to April). Club members may perform on stage or work on scenery, advertising, lighting, or sound. Students audition for performing roles. The number one requirement is: Commitment! If a student demonstrates a lack of commitment, the student may be asked not to participate. Expectations for participation and a club schedule are given to students and parents prior to auditions. First auditions for the Fall Play and Spring Musicals will be announced as the time draws near and held in the Middle School Auditorium. Those who receive acting roles will be required to memorize a script. A rehearsal schedule will be made and distributed during auditions. During the last two weeks before "show time," rehearsals are held Monday through Thursday from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. There are Saturday rehearsals for the Fall Play and the Spring Musical. The number of participants is limited due to the physical size of the stage. Drama Club is open to all grades.	Ms. Quinton - (Director) Ms. Miller - (Asst Director) Meeting: After school and Saturdays Time: 2:50 Location: Auditorium
<u>DUNGEONS & DRAGONS</u> provides an escape from reality and a safe place for students to have fun and make friends. Dungeons and Dragons is a fantasy roleplay game involving the use of dice, imagination, and critical thinking skills. Students with no experience, some, or little experience are all welcome!	Ms. Garcia Meeting: 2:50 Location: Cafeteria every Thursday
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB</u> is a student-led club aimed at raising awareness of local and global environmental issues. Students will meet to plan and lead school activities centered around nature, science and sustainability. The students will have the opportunity to grow and collaborate with others as they explore environmental issues.	Ms. Cope Meeting: every other Tuesday Meeting: 2:50 Location: 273
<u>JAZZ BAND</u> where students can explore the exciting world of jazz music after school! Open to all middle school musicians that are in Band or Orchestra Class. This club offers the chance to develop skills in improvisation, rhythm, and ensemble performance. Members will rehearse classic jazz standards and contemporary pieces, preparing for our school concerts. Whether you play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, bass, drums, or any other instrument, come share your passion for music and have fun making new friends!	Mr. Hecker Meeting: 2:50 Location: Auditorium
<u>JR NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY</u>: ACTIVITY FEE NOT REQUIRED The Junior NHS is not an honor society based solely on academic achievement but consists of students who represent the values of HMS. Membership to our chapter is by invitation ONLY for 8th grade. The qualifications to be considered for the Junior NHS are the students must: Earn a 97 or better average grade (Social Studies, ELA, Math, Science, and World Language) in grades 6-7. Earn a 95 or better average at the end of the 1st marking period in Social Studies, ELA, Math, Science, and World Language in grade 8. Once a student receives their invitation, they complete an application and submit it for revision along with teacher recommendations. The HMS panel reviews all applications, attendance, and disciplinary records aligned with the parameters for acceptance outlined in the HMS Program of Studies. To be accepted as a member of the Haddonfield Middle School Junior NHS, one must meet further	Ms. Sanchez Meeting: Time: 7:15am Location:

standards of good character, citizenship, leadership, and service.	
<u>MATH COUNTS</u> is a collaborative and competitive club that continues to grow with excellence each year. It is designed to allow students to have more involvement with various strands of Mathematics (Arithmetic, Probability, Algebra, etc.) in an effort to sharpen their skills and critically think about scenarios that can be solved through the usage of Mathematics. Students can look forward to having fun with Math through individual, partner and group work. Our competition team competes regionally, hoping to move on to the State competition. The Math Counts competition is held in late January or early February.	Ms. Resnick Meeting: Fridays Time: 7:15 am Location: Room 153
<u>MORNING LIBRARY:</u>	Ms. Flacco Meeting: Time: Location:
<u>PEER LEADERSHIP (GRADE 7)</u> Peer Leadership Mission Statement Peer Leadership is committed to providing leadership for the Haddonfield Middle School community via student directed activities and programs which foster a healthy learning and social environment. 7th grade students will have the opportunity to apply to participate in 7th grade peer leadership in the fall. Information will be provided to 7th grade students at the Annual HMS Club Fair. Students will be provided with information about 7th grade peer leadership and will be able to receive an application at the fair.	Peer Leader Director: Ms. Cannaday Mr. Thomas Meeting: Thursdays Time: 7:15 am Location: Cafeteria
<u>PEER LEADERSHIP (GRADE 8)</u> is a peer-to-peer educational program designed to steer middle school students toward healthy life choices. Rising 8th graders have the opportunity to participate in the Peer Leader Program. In the fall, eighth grade student leaders receive training in group facilitation, public speaking, teamwork, and leadership techniques. Seventh grade students will have the opportunity to join Peer Leadership in September and work with their advisors to strengthen their leadership, interpersonal and communication skills as well as focus on positive and healthy decision making in and out of the school setting. In September, Peer Leaders begin to support our 6th graders with locker assistance and they participate in orientation programs for both students and families. Our Peer Leaders then begin meeting with sixth grade students on a monthly basis, presenting programs on a variety of topics, such as tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, and diversity/respecting differences. Our 8th grade Peer Leaders implement Mix It Up lunches, a signature event for our students. 8th Grade Peer Leaders also assist with sixth grade transition activities.	Peer Leader Director: Ms. Cannaday Ms. Munz Ms. Probst Meeting: Thursdays Time: 7:15 am Location: Cafeteria
<u>SEA PERCH</u> This has a main focus on underwater robotics. Throughout the year, members of this club will focus on working together in order to solve a problem posed by the event organizers from the National Sea Perch Organization. The solution generated from the club will be taken to a competition in early spring when the club will compete against other clubs from around the Delaware Valley in both performance and documentation challenges. Members will gain experience working with many different building materials and will work together to construct a remote controlled underwater device. Members of this club will learn about the topics of buoyancy, ballast, design planning, prototyping, and teamwork.	Mr. Kozak Meeting: Tuesdays Time: 3-4PM Location: Room 173

STUDENT COUNCIL: ACTIVITY FEE NOT REQUIRED	Ms. Flacco Ms. Resnick
WINTER RUNNING CLUB The focus is on the fundamentals of running and conditioning. Distance runners, students who plan to participate in Track and Field in the spring, and those of you who just wish to stay in shape over the winter months are encouraged to participate.	Ms. Barranger Ms. Papa Meeting: Tuesday & Thursdays Nov-Jan Time: 2:50 Location: Outside
WINTER VOLLEYBALL CLUB is offered to 7th & 8th grade students only. focuses on fun and the fundamentals of volleyball. Students will learn the basics of serving, setting, rotation, and volleying. This club extends the physical education curriculum of our school in a very safe learning environment. Students will be encouraged to come out and have fun while learning to play a great sport.	Mr. Monteleone Meeting: Time: Location:
YEARBOOK (8TH GRADE ONLY) performs a variety of tasks including taking photographs, deciding on themes, assembling pages, writing descriptions, and drawing illustrations and artwork for our school yearbook. All students who join this club must be willing to make the yearlong commitment to deliver a first class yearbook to the students of HMS. Computer skills are needed, however, students can learn throughout the school year. Attention to detail and personal organization are necessary.	Ms. Everett Ms. Miller Meeting: 1x on Thursdays & other times depending on the focus area Location: Room 271

A physical is required to participate in sports and sport clubs. Please submit all the athletic participation forms online before the start date.

On the district homepage, Click on [Athletics](#) and then [Sports Forms](#).

ACTIVITY FEE REQUIRED FOR ALL SPORTS

Access Sports Schedules on the [Athletics](#) page by selecting the appropriate season (Fall, Winter, or Spring) and the appropriate sport.

<u>FALL SPORTS</u>	<u>COACH (ES)</u>	<u>DAY & TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
CROSS COUNTRY The middle school cross country program exposes the team members to distance training and racing at the 1.5 mile distance. Students will be challenged to steadily progress in their training and improve in their individual performances. The season includes a number of home meets at Pennypacker Park for all team members to complete as well as a number of away meets for a limited roster of qualifying team members.	Courtney Baker Head Coach Michelle Cannaday Asst Coach Michele Barranger Asst Coach	After School Per Schedule on District Athletics page	Middle & High School Field
FIELD HOCKEY develops the fundamental skills involved with passing, ball handling, scoring, defense, and teamwork.	Ms. Duncan	After School Per Schedule on District Athletics page	7th/8th GD: Tatem Fields

<u>WINTER SPORTS-SPORTS CLUBS</u>	<u>COACH (ES)</u>	<u>DAY & TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>BASKETBALL-BOYS</u> All boys interested in basketball in 7th and 8th grade may sign up. 6th grade boys who feel they are capable of competing with these older boys may try out. Our basketball program develops the fundamentals of shooting, passing, ball handling, defense, and teamwork. Generally, games are played on Tuesdays and Thursdays against other Colonial Conference teams. Practices are held on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Game and practice times vary.	Nate Engel Head Coach Bill Usher Asst Coach	After School Per Schedule on District Athletics page	MS Gym
<u>BASKETBALL-GIRLS</u> All girls interested in basketball in 7th and 8th grade may sign up. 6th grade girls who feel they are capable of competing with these older girls may try out. Our basketball program develops the fundamentals of shooting, passing, ball handling, defense, and teamwork. Generally, games are played on Tuesdays and Thursdays against other Colonial Conference teams. Practices are held on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Game and practice times vary.	Kerry Hammock Head Coach Janine Zizzamia Asst. Coach	After School Per Schedule on District Athletics page	MS Gym
<u>WRESTLING</u> is open to all students who are interested in learning about the sport of wrestling and the training methods associated with the sport. Emphasis is placed on technique and strategy, personal best, and training habits. The team competes in Colonial Conference dual meets and two multiple team tournaments throughout the winter months.	Head Coach Mike Miller Asst Coach	After School Per Schedule on District Athletics page	

<u>SPRING SPORTS-SPORTS CLUBS</u> Start Date:	<u>COACH (ES))</u>	<u>DAY & TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>TRACK & FIELD</u> The middle school track level program includes: sprints, distance events, long jump, high jump, shot put, and discus. The program exposes the athletes to the various events and training principles. The team members will be guided to find events that match their interests and potential. They will be challenged to steadily progress in their training and improve in their performances. The season includes a number of home meets at HMHS Baker Track for all team members to complete as well as a number of away meets for a limited roster of qualifying team members.	Courtney Baker Head Coach	Spring After School Per Schedule on District Athletics page	Middle & High School Field

Activity/Athletic Fee Instructions & Form

Each year, student participation in athletics and co-curricular activities reaches a peak. These activities have received financial support over the years through student activity fee collections. Contributions from these fees have supported nearly every team and activity at HMS.

Please find the payment form attached, or feel free to log in to [My School Bucks](#) to pay online. Please go to the Store tab, **filter by school**, and select the appropriate program fee.

<u>School</u>	<u>Fee Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Family Max</u>
Middle School	Activity Only	\$125	\$200
	Athletics or Activities that require Transportation	\$150	\$225
	Athletics and Activities	\$175	\$250

- Please identify the sport or extracurricular activity in which your child will participate.
- **The Sea Perch and Battle of the Books Clubs are currently the only non-athletic activities that require transportation.**
- Crew athletes who do not plan to participate in any other sport, club, or activity do not have to pay the HMS activity fee.
- Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch will be exempt from the activity fee.
- Before a student may participate in a sport he/she/they must be medically and academically cleared in Genesis.
- If the extra-curricular activity is canceled prior to the start of the season, the student(s) will be provided a refund option. Please contact the main office for any refund inquiries.

**HADDONFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL
STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE
2026-2027**

Please complete the form and return it prior to practice or the start of your activity. You can mail or drop off payment to:

Haddonfield Middle School
Attn: Barbara Rafferty
5 Lincoln Avenue
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

THE ACTIVITY FEE MUST BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO PARTICIPATION IN A SPORT OR ACTIVITY

******(RETURN WITH PAYMENT)******

Please list below the full name(s) and grade level(s) of **ONLY the MIDDLE SCHOOL** student(s) covered by this payment. **The High School activity fee is paid directly to the High School.**

Child	Last Name	First Name	Name of Activity or Sport	Activity Only	Athletics or Activities that require Transportation	Athletics & Activities
1				\$125	\$150	\$175
2				\$75	\$75	\$75
3				Free	Free	Free
4				Free	Free	Free
5				Free	Free	Free

(Checks should be made payable to HMS Student Activity Fund)

Please print clearly to ensure proper credit. Your canceled check is your receipt.

A list of all Haddonfield Middle School sports and activities may be found in the **26-27 HMS ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK** (located on the HMS website)