

### French Club - Ms. Hassing-Pierce



Bonjour! The French club has watched French movies after school, played traditional French games, and made French macaron trinkets out of bottle caps and glitter. Recently, we have also done a homemade Escape Room with a French twist. Allons-y!

### Latin Club - Mrs. Friedman



Latin Club is a school organization dedicated to connecting students with a common interest-Latin. Students from first year to fourth year Latin are welcome to be a part of this warm community. Among other things, Latin Club's annual activities include bowling, Secret Santa, Saturnalia Dinner, Roman Banquet, and Valentine mosaic cookies.

### Spanish Club - Mrs. Cañenguez



Spanish Club brings the Spanish-speaking world to you! Our goal is to experience the rich cultural tapestry of

Hispanic peoples beyond the cover of our textbooks. In years past, we attended the Mexican Baile Folklórico, saw Rigoberta Menchu, Guatemalan Peace Prize recipient, participated with the Hispanic American Council in ESL classes for Latino immigrants, and sampled authentic Hispanic foods at local restaurants. We will continue to take advantage of local cultural programs as well as plan/prepare a trip abroad, summer 2020.

### DECA - Ms. Patterson



DECA is a marketing association for any student enrolled in Marketing, Advanced Marketing, Management, and IB Business. Students have opportunities to compete against other DECA students in numerous marketing areas through individual role-plays, team decision-making, and written events. Students have opportunities to advance through district, state, and international levels. DECA provides growth in the areas of teamwork, business concepts, communication, networking, scholarships, public speaking, appropriate etiquette/dress, and behaviors expected in the business world.

### Northern Light - Dr. Thorpe



Do you like to write, draw, or take pictures? Would you like a school-wide platform for these skills? If your answer is yes, the nationally-award winning Northern Light Student Newspaper staff is the place for you. Email Mrs. Thorpe for more info. and check us out online: [www.portagenorthernlight.com](http://www.portagenorthernlight.com); Twitter @PNlight, Insta @PortageNorthernLight

### Snow Riders Club - Mr. Armitage

Skiers and Boarders get ready to ride down the



slopes of Bittersweet or Timber Ridge. We will be accepting discount forms beginning in Oct. and stop taking them at the end of Nov. This will allow you to make your trek up the mountain top by the 1<sup>st</sup> of Dec. as long as the snow is flying. The high school has discontinued using busses or having a weekly trip. Please realize this as you consider a discount pass for your favorite hill.

Bittersweet Ski Discount cards - Mr. Armitage  
Timber Ridge Ski Discount cards - Ms. Hertel

### IB Club - Mr. Searing

**What:** International Baccalaureate students who join together to engage in community service activities to work towards the CAS goal as part of the IB Diploma-but open to all NHS students who are interested in participating in community service. A key event each year is participation in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.



### Michigan Youth in Government Mrs. Dixon



The State Y.M.C.A. Youth In Government program provides about 1600 high school students with a unique opportunity to become acting state legislators, lobbyists, lawyers, committee chairs, etc. Students will participate in mock state legislature in the Lansing State Capitol Building at our spring conference as well as have the opportunity to be elected to lead the legislative branch, executive branch. Once students have a year in MYIG they could also chose to be lawyers in the judicial branch or participate in a debate style national issues forum. Our weekly meetings lead to two field trips, the 1 day fall conference is held in October for students to learn more about MYIG, bill writing and elect leadership and the spring 5 day conference. We meet once a week after school (and once a month before school on the first Tuesday of the month) to debate public issues, write bills, work on fundraising (Snow Removal Services, Winterfest Pie-in-the-Face, and more), and learn parliamentary procedure. PNHS has a history of success with members winning Best Representative, Best Senator, Best Bill, Best Committee Chair every year for the last 10 years. Join us to debate, argue, learn about public policy, and make new friends. Go to [www.myig.org](http://www.myig.org) to learn more or contact Mrs. Dixon, [adixon@portageps.org](mailto:adixon@portageps.org).

### Ethics Club - Mr. Searing



The National High School Ethics Bowl and the regional ethics bowls it supports are competitive yet collaborative events in which students discuss real-life ethical issues. In each round of competition, teams take turns analyzing cases about complex ethical dilemmas and responding to questions and comments from the other team and from a panel of judges. An ethics bowl differs from a debate competition in that students are not assigned opposing views; rather, they defend whichever position they think is correct, provide each other with constructive criticism, and win by demonstrating that they have thought rigorously and systematically about the cases and engaged respectfully and supportively with all participants. Data from NHSEB surveys shows that this event teaches and promotes ethical awareness, critical thinking, civil discourse, civic engagement, and an appreciation for multiple points of view.

### Student Senate - Mr. Wood



6 PNHS students from each grade level are elected/appointed by their peers in this Student Government Organization. These 24 students combined with the Student Senate Officers take responsibility for a major portion of student activities, including Homecoming, Winterfest, Breadlift, Blood Drive, Dances, Talent Show, and various school/community projects. Senators work in committees to plan and execute these events while also developing their leadership, problem-solving, and interpersonal skills. Student Senators represent their "constituents" and act as a liason between students and administration. Student Senate

is a course that counts as an academic elective. Elections/appointments take place during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of each school year. If you are interested in joining, please email [jwood@portageps.org](mailto:jwood@portageps.org)

### Interact - Mr. Hill



Interact is a student-led group that creates opportunities and service events for Portage Northern students to support and serve others. Throughout the school year, there are several service projects that allow us to give our time and talents to volunteer locally and help others in need abroad. Founded as "Be There" in 2002 by a former PN student, Interact sponsors exciting events like Lunches for Lives and \$2-gether for Tuleeni, which provides education to orphans in Tanzania. Interact works with our local Rotary International group to help organizations and individuals in our community. Meetings are about one Tuesday a month; you can help plan events and learn about world issues, or you can also sign up and join us for volunteer opportunities. Volunteer hours count for freshmen class requirements, NHS and CAS. Bring your friends and help PN improve the lives of others in our community and world!

### Science Olympiad - Mr. Olsen & Mrs. Mason

Science Olympiad is a great opportunity for students to get



involved in science outside their regular school schedules. Science Olympiad involves activities such as movies, demonstrations, building challenges, and other hands-on science fun. In November, Science Olympiad switches gears and gets ready to go to a regional competition where students compete in a variety of events such as forensic science, food science, astronomy, and many more! Science Olympiad is a club for students who would like to know more about science and have fun doing it. Plus, look at all these other clubs. Which one do you think has the best chance of blowing something up? (It also looks great on that resume!)

### Forensics - Mrs. Weeks

Portage Northern is proud to have one of the top Forensics programs in the state, boasting many state champions and national qualifiers. Forensics is competitive speaking and acting. Students prepare one of 14 events, half of which are interpretation events and the other half, public speaking. These include dramatic interpretation, duo, multiple, poetry, prose, storytelling, broadcasting, extemporaneous, impromptu, informative speaking, oratory, and sales speaking. They compete at a series of invitational tournaments. Next, we compete to qualify for district, regional, and state competitions. Northern has won 14 total championships. Our team can also boast a national champion and several national finalists/semi-finalists. Students learn valuable communication and presentation skills, self-confidence, poise, discipline and experience teamwork. Forensics is offered as a class, or students can participate as an extra-curricular activity.



### Fellowship of Christian Athletes Mr. Bartz & Ms. Moreno

Portage Northern Fellowship of Christian Athletes is a group of students that meet



weekly to discuss how God can impact our lives and our school environment. Join us for free bagels and a positive start to your day! We meet on Thursday mornings in room 1.133. Non-athletes are also welcome.

### Creative Writing/Literary Magazine - Dr. Thorpe



Do you love to write creatively, producing plays, short stories, song lyrics, and poems? Then Creative Writing is for you! The club meets once a week with Dr. Thorpe and publishes their work on the club insta (@PNCRW19), on their website (pnhscrew.home.blog), and in the Literary Magazine. The Portage Northern Literary Magazine is a yearly publication of original writing and art by Northern Students. Each year, staffs of 6 to 10 students call for select work to be featured in the May publication. All Portage Northern students are encouraged to submit original work; the call for writing and art begins in late January and ends in March. Students interested in being on the staff should come visit Mrs. Thorpe in room 3.121 for an application. The staff meets on Thursdays beginning in December.

### Yearbook - Ms. Wangler

Yearbook is a class where students learn to utilize Adobe Suite as well as online publication programs. This class teaches all newbies how to navigate through the program, while teaching the basic rules of design. Students are able to see their work published in a memory book that is with people forever! Yearbook emphasizes teamwork, a friendly/family atmosphere, creativity, organization, as well as sales. Over the years, our yearbook has been nominated and has received numerous publication awards. Talk to your counselor if you're interested! Come join our team!



### Out-Of-The-Box - Mrs. Kuiper

Out-of-the-Box is an after school mentoring program designed to support positive interactions by developing relationships between peers. The group is student led and our leadership team designs activities to promote conversations and social skills. We meet once a week (Room 1.128 -day and time to be determined). Students can volunteer to provide a snack and to design/ lead team building activities. Mrs. Kuiper is excited to work with this fine group of students.



### Anime Club - Ms. Nott

The Anime club meets regularly to watch, read, and discuss all things anime. We organize anime themed parties, watch shows, and draw our own anime stories. This year, the club is looking forward to creating t-shirts and organizing cosplay excursions around Portage. [pnhsanimeclub@gmail.com](mailto:pnhsanimeclub@gmail.com)

### National Art Honors Society – Ms. Nott

Do you want to get involved in artistic community service opportunities and fun crafty activities for service hours? Come check out National Art Honors Society! Email Ms. Nott or check the PNHS Art website for updates and meeting times. No prior experience or art class needed.



### Gardening Club – Mr. Olsen

Garden club gives you an opportunity to get your hands dirty. Using different gardening techniques, we keep the growing going all-year-round.



### International Club - Ms. Rath

Did you know that each year Northern has several international students who have come to study and live in Portage? All of us have connections to other cultures and ethnicities through our families and experiences. International Club is a great way for both American and international students to meet, have fun and learn about each other's lives and cultures. Several Wednesdays per semester students share about the life and culture of another country. We also participate in fun activities (pumpkin carving, sledding, etc.) that introduce new cultural experiences to both us and our international peers. All are invited to have fun and meet new people!



### Play & Comedy Club – Mrs. Weeks

Ever wanted to be on stage in the spotlight? Ever want to run the spotlight? Northern will present a winter play and all are welcome to audition. The play will be *She Kills Monsters*, which tells the story of Agnes Evans, a young woman who just lost her parents and sister in a car crash. The Evans sisters never were especially close, but after Tilly's death, Agnes finds a notebook her sister left behind. She discovers that Tilly was well-known Dungeons and Dragons player and as she explores the fantasy world she finds herself catapulted into a journey of discovery and action-packed adventure in the imaginary world that was her sister's refuge. Chock-full of supermodel elves, homicidal fairies, and '90s pop culture, *She Kills Monsters* is a surprisingly sweet tale of friendship, loss, and acceptance paying homage to the geek and warrior within us all. Auditions will be Nov 18-19 in the auditorium. Also, see Mrs. Weeks if you are interested in doing a Comedy Club! The first meeting will be Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 3:00, Room 3.125.



### Musical – Mrs. Koch

Winner of the 2005 Tony Award for Best Musical, *Spamalot* is a musical comedy adapted from the 1975 film *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. Follow King Arthur and his trusted servant Patsy as they travel through England recruiting Knights to serve at the Round Table in Camelot. All the characters have their place in this gut-busting, laugh-out-loud show.

**Audition Materials** are posted on the website, [pndrama.org](http://pndrama.org). Please visit this page for ALL information regarding auditions.

There will be a short non-mandatory **Informational meeting** for students interested in being a part of this exciting production on **Tuesday, September 3** right after the half-day in the choir room. All are encouraged to audition and no experience is required. Sign-ups will be posted on the Choir Room Door. Sign up for one dance slot, one singing slot and one reading slot. Performance dates will be November 8-17, 2019.

Watch our website [pndrama.org](http://pndrama.org), or **join the Facebook page: PNHS presents Spamlot 2019** for further information.

### Men's Ensemble - Mrs. Hellmers

Get involved with PNHS's award-winning choral department! Men's Ensemble is a group of tenors and basses that sing excellent music in a supportive community. Men's Ensemble performs all kinds of music, from classical to contemporary, at all kinds of venues, from



concerts to competitions. All levels of musical experience are welcome! We meet Wednesdays after school at 3pm. Join us in the Choir Room on Wednesday, September 18 for our first meeting!

### The Empowered Club - Mrs. Thorpe



The Empowered Club aims to provide a positive, supportive peer group for NHS' culturally-diverse students and anyone with a heart for cultural inclusion. In addition to attending the community MLK Day celebration and putting on the school-wide Black History Month Assembly, members meet every Tuesday morning for doughnuts and discussion of culturally-relevant current events. Members also go on educational and recreational field trips and interact with guest speakers. Most importantly, EC members become a part of a family-like atmosphere that will provide academic and social support as well as goal/college planning.

### Gaming Club - Mr. Rewa



The Guild is a club where people of all experience and ability levels can come to play the strategic games they love, meet new people, and learn new games. The Guild is a BYOG (Bring Your Own Games) club. If you have Magic cards...bring them! If you have a super cool game that you think people would love...bring it! If you are into table-top role-playing games like Dungeons & Dragons, bring your character sheets, dice, and miniatures. If you have friends who are into this stuff...bring them! We meet weekly, time and place TBD.

### Gay Straight Alliance Mrs. Dernenne & Ms. Paynich

GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance) is a student run club. Our goal is to provide a safe place for students to meet, support each other, talk about issues related to sexual orientation and gender identity and expression and work to end homophobia and transphobia. All are welcome to attend!



### Environmental Club Mrs. Daniall Poulsen



Environmental Club is a student organization founded to educate our school about the effects humans are having on the environment and to identify steps we can take to reduce our environmental footprint. If you are interested, please text @sccc17 to 81010 or talk to Ben Eiler.

### Crochet for a Cause – Mrs. Hall

Crocheting for a cause is a donation-based club that meets once a month. We operate on donations, teach basic crocheting, and then donate our finished products. Last year we were able to donate hats to the cancer treatment center, scarves to the charitable union, and lap blankets to hospice care. Come join us!



### NHS Book Buddies – Mrs. Friedman



This club will create a connection between the Portage Northern High School students and the children at the Women's Shelter in Downtown Kalamazoo via the sharing and reading of books together. This will be a weekly event and NHS students will travel to the shelter.