

Whitman After-School Clubs

How can I get involved in Whitman after-school clubs?

- You can join an established club or create a new club (see other side of page).
- Attend the informational evening known as *Welcome to Whitman Night* that occurs in the fall (each year the specific date will be announced on Whitnet). *Welcome to Whitman Night* is a great opportunity to learn more about Whitman's clubs and to register for any that interest you.
- Drop in any time and check it out. Most club meetings are announced during Morning Announcements or you can find the meeting times by contacting the sponsors.

Where can I find information about the clubs?

- If possible, attend *Welcome to Whitman Night*. You will get a chance to meet people already involved in the clubs and ask questions about their activities.
- Otherwise, read the *Welcome to Whitman Night* booklet, which describes all the clubs. It is available at *Welcome to Whitman Night*, and thereafter in the main office. This booklet has information on the individual clubs including descriptions, sponsor contact information, and frequency of meetings.

What does it cost to participate?

- Prior to participating in any club or activity at Whitman, the student must pay the extracurricular activity fee to the MCPS system. You can pick up the form in the main office or call 301-517-5000.
- Unless stated in the *Welcome to Whitman Night* booklet, there is no additional cost other than the above-mentioned activity fee.

Are there prerequisites or limits to joining any clubs?

- Most clubs have no prerequisites, but a few do. Refer to *the Welcome to Whitman Night* booklet for information specific to each club.
- There is no limit on the number of clubs a student can join. However, it is more rewarding to have substantial involvement in one or two activities than superficial involvement in many.

Can I join a club in the middle of the year? Do I have to attend the club all year?

- It depends on the club. Check with the sponsor listed in the *Welcome to Whitman Night* booklet.

Are Student Service Learning Hours available for any of the clubs?

- Yes. They are listed in the Service Clubs section of the *Welcome to Whitman Night* booklet and other sections of the booklet that carry service learning components.
- HOWEVER: appropriate paperwork must be cleared and registered through the Service Learning Office (in the Transcript Office) prior to club authorization. Students and club sponsors should check with the Student Service Learning office prior to performing service to verify that the hours will be accepted. A current list of approved activities is at the Service Learning Office; note that it is continually being updated.

- If your club is not on the list, you must submit a form requesting approval.

What's the procedure for starting a new club?

- ATTEND AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING during school (held by the *Welcome to Whitman Night* chairs) to obtain forms and address new policies and/or questions.
- OBTAIN A TEACHER SPONSOR. The procedure for this is to approach the teacher of your choosing and describe the club and all the details to pique their interest.
- COMPLETE THE REQUIRED FORM BY THE DATE LISTED (usually mid September). The forms are available in the office and on the school website: www.waltwhitman.edu. If you are not sure what to include in your description, look at last year's booklet for ideas. It is available in the Main Office for your review.
- SUBMIT THE FORM to Dr. Goodwin for his approval. Completed forms that need to be approved should be placed in the office box marked "Club Forms for Dr. Goodwin's approval."
- PREPARE FOR *WELCOME TO WHITMAN NIGHT*:
 - Make all of the arrangements with the club's teacher sponsor for any audio-visual or computer equipment that you want to use.
 - Make a poster identifying your club, and bring it along at set-up with any other supplies you may need (markers, masking tape, scissors, sign-up sheet for new members, pens and pencils) for your assigned table.
 - Be available for set-up on *Welcome to Whitman Night* from 5:00-6:30 p.m. (approximately)
 - *Welcome to Whitman Night* is normally open for freshman from 7:00-8:00 p.m. and open to all students from 8:00-9:00 p.m.
 - *A CLUB REPRESENTATIVE MUST BE PRESENT AT YOUR CLUB DISPLAY AT ALL TIMES.*
- AFTER *WELCOME TO WHITMAN NIGHT*:
 - Each club is responsible for cleaning up their club display *and* any trash in their display area.
 - Return any audio-visual or computer equipment promptly.