

*Litchfield  
High School*



*Activities & Sports  
2011/2012*

## **High School Sports**

### **Boys**

Fall  
Soccer  
Cross Country

Winter  
Basketball  
Skiing  
Hockey  
Swimming  
Indoor Track  
Cheerleading

Spring  
Outdoor Track  
Baseball  
Crew  
Tennis  
Golf

### **Girls**

Fall  
Soccer  
Cross Country  
Field Hockey

Winter  
Basketball  
Skiing  
Swimming  
Indoor Track  
Cheerleading

Spring  
Outdoor Track  
Softball  
Crew  
Tennis  
Golf

## **Middle School Sports**

### **Boys**

Fall  
Soccer  
Cross Country

Winter  
Basketball  
Swimming

Spring  
Outdoor Track  
Baseball

### **Girls**

Fall  
Soccer  
Field Hockey  
Cross Country

Winter  
Basketball  
Swimming

Spring  
Outdoor Track  
Softball

*“Activity is the only road to knowledge”*

~ George Bernard Shaw

The following clubs/activities are offered at LHS:

Acts of Kindness  
Art Club  
Book Club  
Close Up  
Envirothon  
FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America)  
FRC (First Robotics Competition)  
Greener Impact  
Interact  
Invisible Children-Schools for Schools  
Jazz Band  
National Honor Society  
Peer Educators  
Spanish Club  
Student Council  
Middle School Student Council  
The Torch  
TSA (Technology Student Association)

This pamphlet includes descriptions of each club/activity that LHS offers to students.

# CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Litchfield has a large number of activities that are happening during the school year. These activities provide students with the opportunity to become involved with clubs and organizations that interest them. Please take a moment to review the clubs and activities in this brochure and consider your involvement in at least one of them. If you are interested in participating, please contact the advisor at the beginning of the year to find out more information.

## Acts of Kindness

### **Advisors Theresa Ream and Kathy Johnson**

This club was started after a successful Random Acts of Kindness Week two years ago. The positive feedback from students and staff for the activities during the annual nationally recognized week prompted the student group to continue their efforts to foster a safer, more tolerant, kinder school environment. The continuing focus of the A-OK! Club is to encourage kindness and tolerance in the LHS community, creating a positive learning environment. This group organizes the yearly Random Acts of Kindness Week, joining schools across the nation in this effort. Their goal is to make Litchfield High School fun and inspiring for all students.

## Art Club

### **Advisor: Barbara Salinger**

This year's Art club members in cooperation with the Drawing, Painting and A.P. Art classes will design and paint murals to enhance the visual atmosphere of the LHS hallways. Mural canvases were given to the school as a generous gift from the graduating class of 2011. This mural project will continue for several years. Club meetings will take place on Thursdays after school from 2:00 to 3:00 in room 215. All interested students in grades 8-12 are welcome.

## Book Club

### **Advisor: Lisa Heuschkel**

This book club is for students in grades 9-12. This group reads and discusses teen-centered books in a relaxed atmosphere. All books are chosen by the students. The club meets every Wednesday in the guidance conference room during lunch/flex period. Last year this club read 10 books.

## The Torch

### **Advisor: Emily McAdam**

"The Litchfield Torch" is the school newspaper composed by high school students. The newspaper staff consists of reporters, graphic artists, photographers, and editors. Published quarterly, "The Litchfield Torch" communicates students' interests, opinions, and recognizes the accomplishments of academia, sports, and extra-curricular activities.

## T.S.A. (Technology Student Association)

### **Advisor: Neil English**

The Technology Student Association is a local, state, and national organization; Litchfield High School has had an active local chapter for a number of years. Students elect an officer board, run meetings, and plan field trips. In the fall, the club holds a very successful annual can food drive. Members gain technological literacy, leadership, and problem solving, resulting in personal growth. TSA has sent a Litchfield team to the state conference for the past 22 years and Litchfield was represented at the TSA national conference in 2001, 2003, and 2004.

### Peer Educators

**Advisor: Lisa Heuschkel**

The focus of this activity is on community service projects, drug and alcohol awareness events, diversity and tolerance training, fundraisers for our annual scholarship, and cross age teaching to elementary and intermediate school students. This activity does require some after school participation, and there are several field trips.

### Spanish Club

**Advisor: TBA**

**\*Must be enrolled in a Spanish Class**

The goal of the LHS Spanish Club is to promote an awareness and understanding of other cultures. Activities promote the use of Spanish, such as holiday caroling in Spanish at Brandywine and a field trip to an authentic Spanish restaurant, and community outreach projects, such as gift baskets for the needy or donating gifts to the Toys for Tots organization. Some other activities that the club would like to organize this year are movie viewings and an International Dinner. The club officers and representatives meet as needed to plan the events/activities. The officers and representatives relay the information from those meetings to the rest of the members.

### Student Council

**Advisors: Theresa Ream and Kathy Johnson**

This group works to promote school spirit and engage in activities beneficial to the school and community. Attendance at functions is required and there are some occasional weekend commitments. Students gain leadership skills and community service work experience.

### Middle School Student Council

**Advisors: Dana Ouellette and Patricia Smaldone**

This middle school organization is an initial opportunity for 7th and 8th grade students to participate in a school service organization. Students attend meetings during a common free time during the school day, and hold elections for officers. Every middle school student is eligible and encouraged to join in activities promoting school spirit and community commitment. There are several opportunities throughout the year to join with the high school student council with school-wide projects. The experience with this group will foster greater involvement with the high school group; at the end of the 8th grade year, a class meeting will elect

### Close Up

**Advisor: Emily McAdam**

The Close Up Foundation is the nation's largest non-profit citizenship education organization. Students who participate in this group will travel to Washington, D.C. in the spring. Through seminars with Washington policy-makers and study visits to government offices and historical sites, high school students get a "close up" look at the process of democracy and our nation's heritage. Students will also gain invaluable insight into the workings of the U.S. government, understanding of the decision-and policy-making process, both foreign & domestic.

During the first semester, students will participate in fundraising efforts to defray the cost of the trip. During the second semester, students will brush up on government and civics knowledge and prepare for the trip. After the trip, participants will be expected to take part in presentations to civic organizations.

*\*At this time, this activity is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors. However, the 2012 trip is only open to juniors and seniors. This year's sophomore participants can prepare and fundraise for the 2013 trip.*

### Envirothon Team

**Advisor: John Markelon**

The Envirothon Team is a group of students who learn about the resource management issues of aquatics, forestry, soils, and wildlife. Preparation for state and national competition can increase time commitment for each student. Students will gain teamwork and oral presentation skills. A collegiate level knowledge of resource management issues is necessary for the state competition. Students are assessed through typical tests, field knowledge, and oral presentations. Several field trips will be taken to reinforce learning.

### F. B. L. A. (Future Business Leaders of America)

**Advisor: Ed Lok**

This club is a national organization for high school students interested in a career in business or business education. During regular meetings, students plan activities, field trips, fundraisers, and have guest speakers. Students gain a better understanding of being an active member of a national professional organization. Members are prepared to participate at the state competitive events and attend the state conference. Meetings will be held during lunch/study.

### FRC (First Robotics Competition)

**Mentors/Advisors: Mark Landy, Kevin Dake**

*FIRST* Robotics Competition (FRC) is a unique varsity sport of the mind designed to help high-school-aged young people discover how interesting and rewarding the life of engineers and researchers can be. The *FIRST* Robotics Competition challenges teams of young people and their mentors to solve a common problem in a six-week timeframe using a standard "kit of parts" and a common set of rules. Teams build robots from the parts and enter them in competitions designed by Dean Kamen, Dr. Woodie Flowers, and a committee of engineers and other professionals. The team competes in a three day event in Hartford in the spring, a pre-season event in February and a post-season event in October. Off-season meetings are on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 pm, and during the six week build season from January through mid February the team meets every night Mon-Fri and Saturdays.

### Greener Impact

**Advisor: Dean Birdsall**

Greener Impact goals fall into three general categories:

Environmental Improvement - The group wants to work to help make our school and community more efficient with energy and resource use, to limit pollution, and to promote social change that benefits the environment.

Environmental Education - The students study environmental issues and work to educate the community regarding the positive steps that individuals, families, and local government can take.

Outdoor Experience - Students enjoy seasonally appropriate outdoor adventures, enjoying the natural world while hiking, camping, canoeing, skiing, skating, etc.

Meeting times and location to be determined.

### Interact

**Advisors: Theresa Simaitis**

Interact is a service club sponsored by the Litchfield/Morris Rotary Club. Students create and participate in local and international service projects. They also raise money for various charities. Commitment is flexible and based on the individual. Meetings are held weekly, and projects are performed approximately every month. Students will gain an awareness of local, national, and international needs along with work skills, friends, and fun.

### Invisible Children-Schools for Schools

**Advisor: Emily McAdam**

Invisible Children is an international organization who strives to improve the quality of life for war-affected children in Africa by providing access to quality education, enhanced learning environments, and innovative economic opportunities for the communities. To achieve this mission, the Schools for Schools Club at LHS raises money to rebuild schools in war-torn Northern Uganda.

### Jazz Band

**Advisor: Dan Porri**

**\*Participation is by audition**

The jazz band studies and performs appropriate literature from the 30's to the present. Students who wish to play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, or drums in the Jazz Band must be current members of the LHS Music Department. The Jazz Band performs at several events throughout the year. These performances include the Winter and Spring Concert, Pops Concert, and at the fundraising event "Talent in Town." The band rehearses every Thursday night in the band room.

### National Honor Society

**Advisors: Julie Tracy and Carrie Gibbs**

**\*Initial eligibility is determined by 5.0 weighted cumulative GPA and timely completion of the application package .**

The Mortimer Warren Chapter of the Litchfield High School National Honor Society is sponsored by the National Honor Society (NHS), which is one of the largest and oldest recognition programs for high school students in grades 10-12 in the United States. The National Honor Society recognizes and honors those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. This group meets monthly. Members participate in local service projects and provide peer tutoring to fellow students.

### National Foreign Language Honor Societies (French, Spanish, Latin)

**Advisor: TBA**

National Foreign Language Honor Societies are Honorary Societies sponsored by National organizations. Meetings vary from 3 to 4 times a year to twice a month depending on the focus of the members. Students participate in the NFLHS induction and optional opportunities for more commitment. Students will gain recognition for academic excellence and there are some opportunities for public speaking at the induction and academic enrichment through peer tutoring.