

# Opportunities to Discover, Participate and Express Talents

## Activities as Part of the Educational Experience

Co-curricular activities are designed to provide opportunities for student growth, challenge, and achievement outside the classroom. They are an integral component of Edgewood's educational program and include a variety of options to appeal to a wide range of interests. About 95% of Edgewood students join a team or club, belong to a society or council, perform in musical ensembles or play an onstage or backstage role in drama. By participating in co-curriculars, students have fun, make new friends, enjoy time with one another, develop and exercise collaborative and leadership skills, increase self-esteem and learn to appreciate the strengths and talents of others. Edgewood also encourages most co-curricular groups to engage in a service project.

## Co-curriculars for Many Interests

Most co-curricular groups and activities at Edgewood have existed for a number of years. Those with the greatest number of participants tend to be in the arts and athletics, but other popular ones include dances, class councils, academic interest clubs and groups that address social issues or service.

Students who want to form a new co-curricular club or activity are invited to do so by presenting a proposal to the assistant principal six months in advance of the following academic year so it can be reviewed and implemented at the start of school. A faculty member (or several) must agree to serve as the moderator(s) for any student club or activity and some functions may require additional chaperones or security personnel.

The school provides every club with a minimal budget. If a club or class council wants to incur expenses beyond this budget, it must first identify how these expenditures will be funded, and secondly, get administrative approval. All funds should be spent in the best interest of the school and no student or group of students will be allowed to make a personal profit from such activities.

## Crusader Sports

Edgewood High School students challenge and encourage one another to perform—in the classroom and in competitive athletic pursuits. About 85% of students belong to one or more sports teams. Since joining the WIAA in 1999 the Edgewood Crusaders have captured almost 100 Badger Conference Championships and have been State Champion or Runner-up more than 50 times in 15 different sports. In addition to 21 WIAA-sanctioned sports for boys and girls (*see list on back; some teams with lower participation are jointly hosted with other schools*), Edgewood offers a title-winning **Dance Team**, and teams for **Lacrosse**, **Ultimate Frisbee** and **Ski/Snowboard**.

## Performing Arts

**MUSIC** – Instrumental and choral ensembles are curricular courses that include opportunities for performance at Edgewood and at local and state venues, as well as interaction with professional composers, musicians and guest conductors. Music is integral to the development of the whole person, contributing to learning skills, fostering aesthetic sensitivity and enriching one's life and helping to understand other people and cultures. Instrumental ensembles that are available are **Concert Band**, **Wind Ensemble**, **Orchestra**, **Jazz Ensemble**, **Chamber Music Ensembles**, **Pep Band** and **Pit Orchestra**. Choral groups include **Edgewood Chorus**, **Concert Choir** and **Crusader Singers Show Choir**. Outside the Music Department, the

**Edgetones** is the school's co-ed contemporary *a cappella* group that performs an eclectic mix of pop, rock, doo wop, and traditional music, all without instruments. Auditions are typically held once each year, in the spring, and the group rehearses one afternoon per week for several shows a year.

**DRAMA** – Through participating in theatre, students develop socially and individually. They gain a deeper insight into people by studying characterization in various plays. Personal growth is assured as students gain confidence and poise and as they achieve emotional release and control through the various on-stage experiences. Improved body coordination and vocal flexibility also result. Furthermore, as students obtain a theatre background they gain appreciation of the arts and form standards of judgment whereby they can recognize, respect and demand good theatre. Edgewood stages two productions a year, usually one drama and one musical, and also has a summer theatre. In addition, the **Forensics Club** focuses on debate, public speaking and performance, and the school offers opportunities to participate in a **One-Act Play Festival** and, through the Modern Drama course, the **Young Playwrights** program of the Children's Theatre of Madison. Students who enjoy improvisational comedy can join **Laughing Stock**, a troupe that performs several comedy showcases each year.

## Writing and Visual Arts

There are a number of outlets for students who enjoy creative writing and the visual arts. *The Wayfarer* is an award-winning literary magazine of poems, plays, short stories, essays and art chosen by an outside panel of judges and students for publication each spring. *The Envoy* is a student newspaper that showcases journalistic writing, photography and cartooning; *The Times of Edgewood* is an online compilation of essays, opinion pieces and other articles. The *Crusader Yearbook* is both a course and co-curricular that helps students develop leadership skills, gain a background in book production, and make friends. Besides a wide array of studio art course offerings, students can choose to join the **Underground Art Society**, work on murals, build and paint stage sets, submit work for consideration of inclusion in juried exhibits, and engage in other special art-related projects.

## Student Body Leadership

### CLASS COUNCIL

Each of the four grade levels has a Class Council whose purpose is to unify the class, encourage all class members to become involved in class and school activities, lead the class in spirit and enthusiasm, sponsor service and other projects in which the class can participate and organize and support fund-raising projects.

### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Executive Council is comprised of the president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer of the four grade levels. The council helps coordinate Class Council events that involve all-school activities and service projects, as well as provides leadership training for students.

Homecoming is part of the fall sports season and includes a variety of activities. The Executive Council organizes Homecoming Week, specifically the "Dress Up" days, and in conjunction with the Class Councils, sign painting and door painting. The senior class plans the dance and court, which are announced at the pep rally. The Homecoming Dance is open to all EHS students and is a "semi-formal" event.

## Additional EHS Co-Curricular Activities

The following co-curriculars have had a consistent following over several years and are anticipated to continue.

**Amnesty International** provides an opportunity for all students to learn about global challenges to human rights, and be active in letter writing and social media campaigns addressing social justice issues.

**Black Student Union** serves as a social, intellectual, and cultural community for students from various ethnic backgrounds who want to discuss relevant social issues and process their unique personal experiences.

**Book Club** provides an opportunity for students to meet and discuss books that the group chooses, including popular books and classical works.

**Close-Up** is a political/current events club that invites speakers from the Madison community, visits related museum exhibits, attends special lectures at UW-Madison, and provides a forum to debate and discuss relevant topics in the news.

**Edgewood Honor Society** invites students with an outstanding academic record to develop their character through an enthusiasm for scholarship, service and leadership. Most serve as peer tutors and provide assistance to offices within the school.

**Fellowship of Christian Athletes** is a national interdenominational organization whose purpose is to challenge athletes and coaches, and all they influence, to serve Jesus Christ in their relationships and in the fellowship of the Church.

**Green Edge Environmental Club** helps students become environmentally knowledgeable and dedicated citizens who work toward balancing the quality of life and the quality of the environment. Students develop and participate in activities centering on school-wide education and awareness, habitat improvement and resource management.

**Junior Classical League** (Latin Club) is a well-established national organization that encourages an interest in and appreciation of the language, literature and culture of ancient Greece and Rome and to impart an understanding of the debt of our own culture to that of classical antiquity.”

**Key Club** is a service organization for high school students that blends service with outstanding leadership training through projects and learning experiences outside of the classroom.

**LINK Crew** is a group of junior and senior students who act as mentors to freshmen, helping guide them through their transition to EHS, checking in on their progress, and offering end-of-semester study sessions and exam-taking advice.

**Math Team** gives students interested in mathematics the challenge of competing with their peers at both local and state levels.

**Multicultural Club** is an organization of students with the purpose of developing respect and acceptance for differences among all people. Members plan monthly cultural presentations, often with special guests, and educate the Edgewood community about the various cultures at school and Madison.

**National Latin Honor Society** invites members of the Junior Classical League who have an “A” average in Latin for induction to the National Latin Honor Society. Qualifying students are invited to join each spring. AP Latin students wear purple and gold cords for graduation.

**Ping Pong Club** is for students who enjoy playing ping pong and want the chance to for friendly competition among peers.

**Programming Club** is a fun and social way for all students at any range of skill to learn application and web page coding through interactive lessons and projects.

**Science Olympiad** is a competition where students use their knowledge and skills to compete in a variety of science- and engineering-based individual and team events at state and national tournaments.

**Ski Club** takes students from novice to advanced skiing ability on trips to various local ski hills.

**Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica** is the honor society for students who have achieved an “A” grade in three semesters of high school Spanish, after Spanish level II.

**S.T.A.R.** (Sisters Taking Active Roles) is a young women’s group whose participants encourage each other to be examples for females, challenge one another to thrive as individuals and as a community, and build confidence by strengthening mind, body and soul.

**Strategy Games Club** is for those students who enjoy playing games that require strategic thought and planning, including chess and group games that can accommodate numerous players.

**Ultimate Frisbee** is open to all students who want to play competitive Frisbee between other high schools in the area.

## Boys’ Sports

Baseball  
Basketball  
Cross Country  
Football  
Golf  
Hockey  
Lacrosse (non-WIAA, co-op with West HS)  
Ski (Downhill)/Snowboard  
Soccer  
Swim/Dive  
Tennis  
Track & Field  
Ultimate Frisbee (non-WIAA)

## Girls’ Sports

Softball  
Basketball  
Cross Country  
Dance (non-WIAA)  
Golf  
Gymnastics (co-op with Verona HS)  
Hockey (co-op with Middleton HS)  
Ski (Downhill)/Snowboard  
Soccer  
Swim/Dive  
Tennis  
Track & Field  
Volleyball

## Eligibility for Co-Curricular Participation

Co-curricular activities at Edgewood High School are defined as those activities in which students appear, perform, and/or compete as representatives of the school. Coaches, directors, and advisors work to the best of their ability to accommodate students who wish to participate in multiple activities simultaneously.

The Code of Conduct that is used to determine whether a student is eligible for or disqualified from participation is fully described in the *Student Handbook*. Students who participate in co-curriculars, are required to abide by this code on a year-round basis. All students and parents should read the Code of Conduct.

In general, students must meet minimum academic eligibility standards, dress appropriately, maintain appropriate, non-disruptive behavior, attend school and scheduled practice, rehearsal and event days, and not engage in cheating. The possession, use or distribution of tobacco products, alcohol, non-prescribed steroids, and controlled substances is strictly forbidden. Law enforcement agencies and court records obtained by the school may be used as the sole basis for reaching a decision.