

9/01/2016

Dear Foote School Middle School Students and Parents:

Attached is the sign-up sheet and schedule for this year's activities, as well as a brief description of each activity. Please take a moment to review the offerings and consider which activity or activities you would like to participate in. When doing so, please take into account all of your time commitments inside and outside of school. To help with your decision, there will be an informational meeting during study hall on Thursday, September 15. When you have made your decision please sign the activities form in spaces provided and return it to your advisor by **Monday, September 19**.

Even if *you do not wish to participate* in activities this year, please designate so in the space provided, sign the form and return it to your advisor by the above date.

Most activities will begin the week of September 19-23.

Thank you for considering the following opportunities. We look forward to your participation, and we are excited by the fun and personal growth that await you through our vast array of middle school activities.

Sincerely

Liam Considine

## MS ACTIVITIES SIGN-UP SHEET

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Please select from the list of activities below. Sixth graders are advised to select only one or two activities. Please consider extracurricular activities, like athletics and theater productions, when planning participation in activities.

<b>Tuesday</b>	12:15	F-STAND (grades 7,8 & 9)
	2:15	Environmental Action Group Applied Science Club (grades 7,8& 9) Chorus
<b>Wednesday</b>	12:15	Model Congress (grades 7, 8 & 9) Amnesty International
	2:15	SPI (school newspaper) Jazz Rock Ensemble Footenotes (literary magazine)
	3:15- 4:15	Orchestra (grades 4-9)
<b>Thursday</b>	12:15	Student Council
	2:15	Foot Steps (yearbook- grades 8 & 9): Sept.- April Math Counts

\* **Monday-Friday** (as scheduled) The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade play: cast & crew:  
by audition/interview.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the space if you **do not** wish to participate in activities: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed and signed forms to your advisor.

**Amnesty International:** Unaffiliated with any government or religion, Amnesty International is an organization that works to promote and defend the human rights of all. Open to grades six through nine, our group meets once a week to write letters on behalf of people who are prisoners of conscience. We also work to raise funds to support the organization's worldwide humanitarian efforts. Our combined efforts have resulted in the release of prisoners, the preservation of life and the reunion of families.

Student Heads:

Faculty Advisors: Sally Nunnally & Cindy Raymond

**Club of Applied Sciences:** Have you ever wanted to know how programs and apps are made? This year, the Club of Applied Sciences will focus on computers and the software that makes them work. We will explore the basics of computer programming, including making Mac programs and iOS apps, with additional topics based on club members' interests. The club is open to 7th, 8th and 9th graders, and no prior experience with programming is necessary. We will meet during Study Hall on Tuesdays in the Middle School Computer Lab.

Student Head: Nate Krauss

Faculty Advisors: Drew Sweet

**The Foote School Chorus** is a singing ensemble for boys and girls in grades 6–9. Whether you are new to singing or you are an experienced chorus member, we'd love to have you join us. We foster school spirit and create a sense of community by making music together and singing a wide variety of genres and styles. The Chorus performs at major assemblies throughout the year. The group meets Tuesdays at 2:15 p.m. in room A101.

Student Leaders : Fiona Jennings and Graley Turner

Faculty Advisor: Deadra Hart

### **The Environmental Action Group (EAG)**

EAG meets weekly during Tuesday Study Hall in JM -108. Special activities are sometimes scheduled during school and occasionally after school. The group is open to students in grades 6-9. The goals of Foote school's Environmental Action Group are to raise member and campus awareness of environmental issues, to support school wide efforts towards the enhancements of environmental stewardship within our communities and to foster the advocacy and leadership skills of its members. Members determine the specific causes of the group, and the scope of their activities ranges from local to global. Past activities have included the organization of Foote's Dark Day of Enlightenment, movie afternoons, neighborhood cleanups, school recycling initiatives, and beach clean ups to name just a few. EAG is responsible for selecting the Environmental Stewardship Award Recipient and creating and presenting the Foote school Earth Day assembly in April.

Student Heads: Nick Koobatian, Sylvie Moran, and Mia Sloan

Faculty Advisors: Kim Birge-Liberman, Kelly Small and John Cunningham

**Footenotes**, the Foote School's literary magazine, is published yearly. Submissions from all grades come to an editorial staff of Middle School students. They read, discuss, and decide which writing will be included in the publication. The magazine is dedicated to a special person and distributed at an assembly.

Student Head: Nelly Pollack

Faculty Advisors: Tony Bures & Susan Neitlich

**Foote Steps**, the school's yearbook, is created by a hardworking group of 8th and 9th graders. Working in small teams that take responsibility for particular sections — sports, activities, faculty, etc.— the students take photos and use a desktop publishing program to design pages that create a representation of the school year. The work must be completed by mid-April to allow printing and delivery of the yearbooks at the Yearbook Assembly in May.

Student Heads: Lilah Garcia & Hilal Zoberi

Faculty Advisors: Becky McGuire and Jennifer Friedman

**The Foote Jazz-Rock Ensemble** is for 6th-9th grade instrumentalists and singers who would like to perform at school gatherings. Rehearsals will involve improvisation and student input, encouraging collaborations that are energizing and fun. This will be a truly creative "fusion" group! Rehearsals are in the Twichell Room on Wednesdays from 2:15pm- 3:00pm, beginning with an organizational meeting on September 16th.

Student Leaders: Pablo deVos Deak & Hilal Zoberi

Ensemble Director: Max Heath

**MathCounts** is a club that meets on Thursdays during study hall in the Twichell Room and one Saturday a month to do a full practice competition. In December there will be a school competition, and from this ten students will be selected to compete in the Chapter competition at Yale in February. There will also be a competition held at Foote in February. This club is a fun way to enrich your mathematical skills and learn new methods of problem solving. The club is open to all students grades 6 – 8.

Leaders: Julia Davis and Ting Li

Advisors: Megan Williams, John Hay, and Andrew Metrick

**Model Congress** (Sturley Room on Monday flextime) is the place where 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders learn to *argue more effectively* (read on....) Students learn about formal debate structure and then research and draft a bill for debate at the Packer Collegiate School's Model Congress in New York City in May. Through this activity, students learn about the formation of US law, develop a greater understanding of causes they believe in, and begin to feel more empowered as emerging citizens. Students experience stimulating interactions and form friendships with other model congress participants from the metropolitan New York area.

Student Heads: Nahjee Petty, Tommy Styron, Page Wildridge and Hilal Zoberi  
Faculty Advisors: Liam Considine & Mike McCabe

**The Foote School Orchestra** is open to 4th-9th graders who play a string, woodwind, or brass instrument and would like to play together once a week to learn and prepare music for a variety of school performances throughout the year. The director is violist and experienced music teacher Nora Lee. Orchestra meets every Wednesday from 3:15-4:15pm. *There will be a "getting to know you" rehearsal at 3:15 on Wednesday, September 21 in A-100, Mrs. Velardi's room.*

Director: Yaira Zlabys

**F-STAND** works together to help spread the message of the importance of being kind and inclusive and treating others with respect. Our goal is to help spread a positive message throughout the school and make Foote an even better place. We work on accomplishing this goal by creating activities for students in the lower school as well as all school events to keep students and faculty mindful and aware. During meetings we discuss topics such as stereotypes, prejudice, and identity, as well as current events and school issues. Members of the club are invited to apply to attend the Student Diversity Leadership Conference in their 9th grade year. *Open to all 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders.*

Student Head: Page Wildridge  
Faculty Advisors: Carol Maoz, Megan Williams, Kossouth Bradford, Kim Birge-Liberman  
Meeting Location: Harkness Room

**Student Council** is an activity for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grades, which meets on Thursday during flex/recess. This student- elected group acts as a conduit between the students and the faculty/administration on a variety of issues. In addition, the group plans and executes activities for the Middle School, as well as the entire school population, in an effort to raise money for gifts on behalf of the student body.

Student Council President: Emmanuel Candelo-Diaz

9<sup>th</sup> Grade President: Page Wildridge

Faculty Advisors: Laura Stanley & Trevor Rosenthal

*The SPI* is the school's student-run newspaper. Student staff members and faculty advisors meet every Wednesday during study hall in the computer lab. Found among *The SPI*'s pages are: editorials; interviews with students, teachers and administrators; survey and sport results; book and music reviews; and photography, cartoons, recipes and puzzles. *The SPI* is published several times each semester.

Student Heads: Jerry Sun, Nick Perkins, Joey Robeschi

Faculty Advisors: Ozler Kayaarasi, Lara Anderson & Andy Bromage

### ***7th and 8th Grade Play***

#### ***Telling Tales, a collection of one-act plays***

**Performance dates: December 1 – 4, 2016**

#### ***The Ugly Duckling* by A. A. Milne**

This classic tale is about a king and queen who are worried about the future marriage prospects of their very plain-looking daughter. They come up with a scheme to get her married off to a prince from a far away country who has never seen the princess before. This wonderful comedy includes mistaken identities, hilarious characters and situations, and most importantly teaches us a great deal about the definition of real beauty.

***The Flying Doctor* by Moliere** In this zany comedy by the great French playwright, Moliere, a gentleman named Valere will go to any lengths to marry his sweetheart, Lucile, but her father, Gorgibus, forbids the union. Valere uses his clever and crafty servant, Sganarelle, to divert Gorgibus' attention, but Sganarelle gets himself into a series of crazy predicaments while doing so, at one point even having to play two roles at one time! This play is filled with the great humor that Moliere became famous for.

***The Actor's Nightmare* by Christopher Durang.** This play is about an innocent and simple accountant named George Spelvin who inexplicably ends up backstage in a theater. He is suddenly thrust into the role of an actor's understudy and, without warning, is forced to perform in a play for which he doesn't know any lines. In fact, he doesn't even know what play it is! Great characters and the funniest, unpredictable circumstances make this play a real audience-pleaser!

**\*Audition dates are: 8<sup>th</sup> grade – Monday, Sept. 19 during study hall and after school;  
7<sup>th</sup> grade – Tuesday, Sept. 20 during study hall and after school;**

Rehearsals occur from 3 pm to 5 pm every afternoon, and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The scenes being rehearsed determine who needs to come to rehearsals at any given time. There are opportunities to act, serve on the crew, operate the light and soundboard, or be the Production Stage Manager.