

BAND

The Marching Band begins preparing for the marching season in early August. This group performs at each home football game, the homecoming parade, and usually four competitions. After the marching season, the Marching Band is divided into two bands, namely the Honors Band and Concert Band, for the remainder of the semester.

The Symphonic Band is an ensemble of band students who do not participate in the Marching Band. This band meets for the entire fall semester and performs two concerts.

Other optional instrumental music opportunities which occur outside of the regular school day include Pep Band, Jazz Band, Madrigal Recorder and Brass ensembles, Musical Pit Orchestra, the NIB-12 Conference Band Festival, ILMEA District and All State, and Solo and Ensemble recital and contest.

BASS FISHING CLUB

Bass Fishing Club is an opportunity for students to learn about fishing as a hobby/sport and to compete within the club system. The club has meetings starting early spring and competitions as weather permits. Club presentations may include fillet demonstrations, fish fries, DNR presentations (license regulations, limits, etc.), taxidermy, and future opportunities. The club has many resources to draw from and is open to any interested student.

CHOIR

The Geneseo High School Choirs are comprised of approximately 150 students. Those who choose choir will be in one of three groups, according to their grade in school: Freshman Chorale, Sophomore Concert Choir, and Junior/Senior Choir. No audition or prerequisite is required.

All singers take part in six concerts given annually, including the Harvest Festival Concert, Fall Choral Concert, Christmas Vespers Concert, Mid-Winter Concert, Spring Concert, and the All-Unit Concert. These concerts are graded events and are an integral part of the curriculum. Every student will also be assessed individually once per week in a ten-minute vocal assessment, where growth is measured individually, rather than comparatively.

Additionally, choir students may elect to involve themselves in non-graded/extra-curricular performance opportunities, such as the ILMEA District Festival (audition, festival, All-State), NIB-12 Conference Music Festival, Solo/Ensemble Recital/Contest, Madrigal, Jazz Choir, Musical Theatre, and numerous other activities. For most of these activities, an audition is required.

CONSTRUCTION TRADES CLUB

Construction Trades Club provides opportunities for students to participate in and experience different aspects of the construction job field. Students will participate in workdays, as well as take trips to see local job sites and construction-related

businesses. The Construction Trades Club will also participate in volunteer activities throughout the year, such as Rebuilding Together and Habitat for Humanity.

FFA

The FFA is a national organization for students of vocational agriculture. It differs from other student organizations in that it is intra-curricular, meaning that students of agriculture receive FFA instruction along with their agriculture instruction. The FFA has over 580,000 members nationwide and over 17,000 in Illinois.

The function of the FFA is to offer students of agriculture opportunities to use classroom instruction in practical experiences. This is accomplished through student-owned projects, contests, and award programs. The FFA offers opportunities in many areas, such as judging activities, public speaking events, livestock and crop production, safety, landscaping, mechanics, home beautification, produce processing, and employment experience. Geneseo Chapter members also gain experience through the Chapter crop experimental plot.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLUB

Foreign Language Club gives students opportunities to explore cultures other than their own. A student does NOT need to be in a second language class to participate. These opportunities include foreign film nights, cooking classes, dancing lessons, cultural holidays/traditions, and exploring the resources our community offers. This club meets once a month after school or in the evenings.

FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA (FBLA)

The purpose of FBLA is to prepare members for careers in business and to assist them by becoming better employees and citizens. FBLA helps students develop leadership abilities, prepares them for entry into a business-related occupation, and offers a setting where members compete at regional, state, and national levels in business and technology curriculum.

KEY CLUB

Key Club is sponsored by the Geneseo Kiwanis Club and is a student-led organization that focuses on service, character, and leadership. In addition to traditional fundraisers, Key Club does a variety of community service projects. Money raised is donated to various nonprofit organizations. Some projects include: walking dogs at the animal shelter, raking leaves, making cards for hospitals and nursing homes, Geneseo Christmas Walk, attending Kiwanis meetings, Atkinson Heritage Day, Spirit Night at the basketball game, making tied blankets, etc. Some of our fundraisers include football cleanup, selling bandanas/suckers/school spirit items, Bowling for Spastics, Spike It Up, homecoming shirt sales, etc. In the spring, Key Club members attend the Eastern Iowa/Illinois district convention.

LINK CREW

Link Crew is designed to create an accepting environment among peers. Students involved receive training designed to develop leadership and counseling skills. Activities include new student programs, freshmen orientation, promoting positive peer activities, and individual active listening. Link Crew leaders are selected to act as mentors to small groups of freshmen to ease the transition from middle school to high school.

MATHLETES

Mathletes is a group consisting of students who enjoy math. Students meet weekly to work on challenging problems in the topics of Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II, and Pre-Calculus. The group of all high school grade levels competes in individual and team events at the NIB-12 Conference meet every year in December.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY (NHS)

The National Honor Society is an organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1921. To be considered for membership in the Geneseo High School chapter of the National Honor Society, juniors and seniors must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.2 on the 4.0 grading scale. Students who are scholastically eligible will be notified and informed that for further consideration they must complete the Student Activity Information form and return the form to the high school office. Faculty and advisors evaluate the student's service, leadership, and character. A student must have participated in two activities for two years and currently be involved in an activity. A faculty committee reviews each student's application, teacher recommendations, and advisor evaluations to determine if the student qualifies for membership. Those juniors who are inducted into NHS become part of the active chapter during their senior year, participating in group and individual service projects.

NATIONAL TECHNICAL HONOR SOCIETY (NTHS)

NTHS is an honor organization for outstanding junior and senior students enrolled in occupational, vocational, or technical programs. Requirements for membership are:

1. Scholarship – a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.
2. Workmanship – a desire to pursue a career in his/her course of study, with a minimum of two years' enrollment in career-oriented classes.
3. Leadership – providing leadership to others in school or in the community.
4. Character – exhibiting exemplary character traits that set one above the ordinary student.
5. Citizenship

Career area teachers nominate students for NTHS. Recommendations from three additional teachers/advisors/coaches are required.

PING-PONG CLUB

Ping-Pong Club meets twice a week during the winter months. This club is for those who enjoy a friendly game of ping-pong, an intramural tournament, or traveling to an invitational. This club consists of officers and members. The purpose of this club is to have fun playing and improving ping-pong skills and interacting with others. This club is as competitive as students want it to be.

RADIO/SPORTS MANAGEMENT CLUB

The GHS Athletics Department coordinates approximately 450 events in a school year. Thus, there are many opportunities for students to participate and contribute as a member of the Radio/Sports Management Club. To receive a certificate of completion, a Radio/Sports Management Club member will need to complete a minimum of 50 hours of service work in one of the following areas: Event Planning, Facility Management on Game Day, Game Scout, Video Taping, Broadcasting, Journalism, Marketing and Graphic Design. Any interested student can stop in the athletic department for more information.

ROBOTICS CLUB

Robotics Club gives students the opportunity to work cooperatively in small groups to construct a robot that will compete against other schools from all over the Midwest. The (almost) monthly Saturday competitions are VEX Robotics Competitions in locations from central Iowa to Chicago. Students will develop an understanding of the technology behind programming robots and engineering to construct the most effective robot they can for the current year's game. Students meet weekly after school to construct their robots.

SCHOLASTIC BOWL

The Scholastic Bowl Team is an interscholastic activity in which student team members collaborate to earn points by correctly answering questions in competitions against teams from other schools. The questions are in the categories of science, mathematics, literature, art, music, language arts, and miscellaneous. Practice begins in the fall, with meets in October, through regional, sectional, and state competitions in March. All students are welcome to attend practice. Attendance at practice and meets is flexible so that students involved in other seasonal activities can also participate.

SCHOOL PLAY & MUSICAL

The drama department holds great opportunities in every aspect of stage production. Two major plays are performed each year, one in the fall and one in the spring.

SPEECH TEAM

Membership in the Speech Team is achieved by being active in any of these three groups:

1. Individual Events – Speech. This team consists of fourteen different events. Members decide in which events to compete, whether it is the interpretative acting or public speaking events. Categories include: radio, original comedy,

- verse, humorous or dramatic interpretation, impromptu, and duet acting. After-school practice begins in November. Meets are every Saturday in December and January, with the state series in February.
2. **Group Interpretation.** This team is a group selected by tryouts to perform a thirty-minute interpretation of any play, book, or idea they choose. Scripts and a small set may be used, but there are no props or costumes. Tryouts are held in February, with practices in the mornings. The group travels on Saturdays to different schools for NIB-12 and sectionals, with the last possible meet being state.
 3. **Contest Play.** For this activity, a script of up to forty minutes is prepared, along with a collapsible, portable set for out-of-town meets. The cast is usually small and the script dramatic. Tryouts are held in late January, with practices after school.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council of Geneseo High School is the student governing body of the high school. Under the direction of its President, this group of students from all classes promotes better student-faculty relations. The Council handles social events such as homecoming, other dances, and many school-spirit activities. They are also involved in many community service projects. Opportunities for participation in leadership workshops and conferences on the local, district, state, and national levels are also provided and encouraged. Geneseo High School Student Council is a member of the Blackhawk District, the Illinois Association of Student Councils, and the National Association of Student Councils.

Student Council membership is available to the entire student body. Membership is obtained through:

1. Being elected to the Executive Board. These offices include: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Liaison.
2. Being elected to a class office. Each class has a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
3. General membership is obtained by a student completing a petition of 25 signatures from students in his/her class requesting membership.

Additional programs are provided for students whose primary interest is student leadership skills. A point system is used for determining participation in leadership activities beyond the local level.

STUDENT LIBRARY ADVISORY PANEL (SLAP)

The Student Library Advisory Panel meets in the library once a week before school. Students check out the newest books and plan library-related activities for the school such as book clubs, movie premieres, library displays, and contests.

STUDIO CLUB

Studio Club is for students who are interested in the arts; they do not need to be an artist or enrolled in an art class. The Studio Club does community art projects, such as face painting, murals, making items for fund raisers, teaching younger children art in the elementary schools, participating in school-wide projects, art contests, and much more.

THESPIANS

Thespian Troupe #71 is an honor society for those who work in the drama department. To become a Thespian, you must earn fifteen "Thespian Points." These points are earned by acting, doing stage work, or otherwise assisting with productions. Ten hours of work equals one Thespian Point. During the year, the Thespians help present plays. They also provide ushers and ticket salespeople for the plays. Every spring an initiation banquet is held where awards are given to hard-working Thespians. The "Best Thespian" is chosen from among the "Honor Thespians", who are Thespians with sixty or more points. New Thespians are also inducted into The Troupe at this banquet.

YEARBOOK

The Yearbook staff is comprised of students interested in recording the events at Geneseo High School during the school year. Meetings are held every other week after school. The work includes writing copy, taking and planning pictures, selling and distributing yearbooks, and typing and working on layouts. Opportunities to work as an editor are available. For more information, students should contact the yearbook advisor.