Welcome To High School!

Student Activities For 9th Grade

Yough School District believes that participation in activities plays an important role in the academic, social and emotional growth and development of our students. In addition to Student Mentoring, we provide a variety of opportunities to our students to enhance interests and abilities. It is easy to get involved in activities at Yough High School!
Student Mentoring Program

All ninth-grade students have the opportunity to be involved in the mentoring program where they will be paired with a senior mentor with similar interests to help them adjust to the high school environment. They will have team building activities, discuss academic or social concerns, and build a positive relationship with an upperclassman.
BASEBALL

One of the activities Yough offers to all freshmen boys is baseball. Coaches guide the team through training including weight lifting, speed and agility workshops and actual baseball skills practice. Both fall ball and spring ball are offered. Sign-ups will be announced during your high school class. If you are a freshmen boy looking for a classic, fun way to meet new people in all grade levels, and enjoy playing, Yough baseball may just be the activity for you!

BASKETBALL

Winter months can drag on, so why not play basketball? Sign-ups are during the fall and the season is from November till February. Basketball requires a lot of dedication but it is a great way to meet new people and have fun. The coaches are great and would love to have you sign-up! Play basketball and make memories that will last forever!

CAP/SADD

Community Action Program/Students Against Destructive Decisions (CAP/SADD) is an organization dedicated to reaching out and helping make our school and community better. We have participated in fundraisers and walks to help numerous charities such as the Juvenile Diabetes Association, the Trooper Kenton Iwaniec Memorial Fund, and Westmoreland Parks and Recreation. We also conduct a Toys for Tots Drive, carry out Red Ribbon Week in October to promote drug awareness, and promote safe driving and wise decision making during prom and graduation. Finally, we focus on avoiding destructive decisions in daily life. Interested in this activity? Sign up at the beginning of 9th grade.

CHEERLEADING

The YHS Cheerleading Squad cheers and supports our varsity football and basketball teams. Tryouts take place in May and camp starts in August. The full season goes from June to February and the banquet takes place in April. If you like to dance, cheer, tumble, or just have fun with a close-knit group of students, come to tryouts! See you in May!

CHORUS

Unlike middle school, chorus is an elective, meaning you receive credit for taking it. Students learn basic music theory and correct singing techniques, along with songs for concerts. There are two concerts per year where attendance is mandatory: the Christmas Concert and the Fine Arts Festival in May. Sign up for chorus when you schedule your high school classes. You will not regret it!
COLOR GUARD

Are you interested in spinning flags and rifles and performing in shows? If yes, then color guard is for you. Tryouts are in the spring. We work all through the summer to prepare for local parades and halftime performances at football games. After football season, we perform at several competitions. You will be called down to an assembly in the gym one day to try out using all of the batons and flags; this is when you can sign up. Please consider trying out!

COUGAR NEWS

The high school also has a Cougar News Team. Members can be on the air as anchors, weather men/women or as a sports anchor. There are also members who work behind the scenes as editing the announcements and being in charge of the equipment and making the show run smoothly. New member selection takes please in the spring.

CROSS COUNTRY

Are you looking to join a fun sport in high school, but do not know what sport to choose? Consider cross-country! Not only can students of all grades run cross-country, but students of all ability can run cross-country. The cross-country team is a great group of people with a fun, laid back environment. Whether you want to get in shape, meet new friends, or just say you are part of a team, cross-country is great for all. If you are interested in running cross-country, just sign up at the end of 8th grade with the athletic director at the middle school.

ENVIROTHERN

Students learn about forestry, aquatics, soil & land use, and current issues. Towards the end of the school year, we go to Twin Lakes Park for a competition. A typical club meeting is comprised of studying anything from bird calls to going outside and identifying trees as well as other topics to prepare for the competition.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)

FCA is a club that is initiated and led by student-athletes who focus on equipping, enabling, empowering and encouraging student-athletes to impact and influence Yough High School in a positive way as a Christian. You do not have to be an athlete to join. Our goal is to reach out to all students and help encourage one another and make a difference in our school and community.
FOOTBALL

The football team at Yough is always welcoming new members to the team. Football can be an exciting and rewarding sport. It will take a lot of practice, hard work and dedication. Playing football will allow you to make new friends and be recognized for a good performance. The team has a football camp every summer that is mandatory if you want to be a starter on the varsity and junior varsity team. You will need to get a physical done at the high school or your doctor’s office. If you are interested in playing football for Yough, you can sign up at the end of 8th grade in the middle school office or with the athletic director.

FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA

The FBLA club is a competition group. In FBLA, students will attend competitions based on career and business-related categories. When your team wins one competition, the team will advance to the next stage until you reach nationals. In addition, ninth and tenth grade members have separate competitions from eleventh and twelfth grade.

GOLF

Have you ever played golf before? If not, you have the chance to play in high school! The golf team would love to have you & we are looking for upcoming freshmen to join! There are approximately 12-16 meets and home meets are at The Madison Club. Team selection is in May and the season runs from August thru October. If you enjoy playing golf, anyone is welcome to join in on the fun! It is free and the golf team would love to have you & it is a great opportunity to make new friends!

GYMNASTICS

Gymnastics is a good way to let loose. However, there are several requirements to compete. You will have about 6 competitions plus WPIALS and other big competitions. It is open for any grade; for more details please see the Athletic Secretary or Athletic Director.

INTERSCHOLASTIC UNIFIED SPORTS (IUS)

Interscholastic Unified Sports (IUS) is a fully-inclusive co-ed high school sports program which brings together students with and without disabilities. They train together and compete as equal teammates and through this experience, become friends. The Unified Track and Field teams practice after school twice a week. They participate in at least three competitions against other high school teams. The ten-week long season begins in March and ends in May. Track events include: 100 meters, 400 meters, 800 meters, 4 x 100 relay and 4 x 400 relay. Field Events include: Shot put, running long jump, mini javelin.
JOURNALISM

Do you enjoy seeing your name published? Do you like to report information, format on a computer, photograph, and share your thoughts with other students? As a member of Journalism Club you will have the opportunity to report on topics that you find interesting and gain the experience of polishing a newspaper for your peers to read. Also, you will meet a variety of other students as team members and for interview and survey projects, and may get to attend special events occurring at school in order to report on them. Journalism Club typically creates and distributes 4 publications each year and meets once each 6-day-cycle during activity period. You can sign-up by attending the first meeting, which will be announced in the fall, and stay enrolled by developing and submitting your projects.

LACROSSE

Women’s lacrosse is not as brutal as you may think. It is all finesse, meaning skill and agility, but don’t worry, every single player starts from scratch, so you can too. It requires basic hand-eye coordination and athleticism. Those who are a part of the team get along well and have a great time... The coaches are fantastic at what they do and are very inspirational. The lacrosse season is in the spring, and you can sign up for it in winter. All you have to do it listen for announcements.

MAJORETTES

Anyone can try out. You can have twirling background or never twirled before! We will teach you, as long as you are willing to practice and work hard! We twirl one, two and three batons. We have ribbons and flag batons, and do small dances too! Football season is based at the high school and competition practices are at a school within Yough School District. Practices are twice a week. We perform at football games during the fall, march in the high school band, and compete during the spring semester. We have a blast together! There is a time for fun and laughs and a time for hard work. We make sure we do both! Sign-ups and tryouts are in the spring. Watch for an announcement in April or May, we’d love to have you join our team.

MARCHING BAND

Do you play an instrument and want to expand upon your abilities, all while having fun? If so, marching band is the place for you. Marching band combines playing an instrument, meeting new friends, and having fun into one organization. Being a part of the marching band is an amazing opportunity. For example, in the August the band is invited to play in the Fall Fantasy Parade at Kennywood. The band is also invited to perform in various parades, band festivals and band competitions. Plus, every even-numbered year, the band travels to Florida to Disney World for a week and marches in a parade. Marching band is definitely a great organization. If you are interested in joining, just talk to band teacher at the middle school.
MUSICAL

Every spring, the Yough High School Drama Department puts together a spring musical. In charge of the musical is a director, choreographer and music director. A classical musical is chosen every October. Auditions and callbacks are held in November, where each person is to sing a song. Every person who auditions is cast in the musical. Rehearsals are two to three days during the week, after school, and every Saturday morning. The show is the next to last weekend in March. Performing in the musical is a lot of fun, and you get to meet new, older students! Interested students need to listen for the announcements in late fall of 9th grade to begin auditions.

OUTDOORS CLUB

Are you interested in hunting, fishing, and kayaking? If yes, consider the outdoors club! During the first few weeks of school, you can sign up for this interesting and outdoorsy club. An announcement will be made asking anyone interested in this club to report to a certain room, usually the library, and sign up with sponsor. Outdoors club usually meets 1 day of the 6-day cycle. Outdoors club is something to look forward to in high school!

PRIDE CLUB

The Pride club is all about standing up for equal rights and creating a safe, positive environment for all students. We are an inclusive club, eager to spread positivity around the school. It is a great way to diversify your social circle and better understand the school community. We spread awareness as well as support to all members of the community. We are an extremely welcoming organization that is always accepting new members.

REMEMBERING ADAM

Even if sports are not your cup of tea, there are other activities in high school that can introduce you to your best friends. Remembering Adam is an organization designed for a group of people to come together and stand up against drugs. The group comes together at relaxing meetings to discuss ways to encourage people not to fall into peer pressure. Every now and then there are random drawings for the people in the club to win prizes such as gift cards. Remembering Adam is a judge-free zone where everyone is welcome.

RINGGOLD ICE HOCKEY

Ice Hockey at Yough High School has to be played through Ringgold High School. It can be played at any grade level and is a great opportunity to meet new friends. More information can be obtained through your athletic director Mr. Evans.
ROBOTICS TEAM

Looking to be a part of an exciting high school program? The robotics team is where Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math all come together in a fun way. We will work as a team to build and modify a robot to compete against other high school teams in Western Pennsylvania. The Robotics Team will provide you with a unique, hands-on experience that will allow you to discover the possibilities of a career in the manufacturing sector, and other science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM) fields. Sign up at the beginning of 9th grade when announced.

SOCCER

Have you played soccer before? If not, do you want to start? You have the chance to play in the high school! Both the girl’s and boy’s soccer teams have a history of success by making it to the playoffs. Both teams are looking for upcoming freshmen to join their teams and welcome anyone who would like to play, even if you have never played soccer before. Soccer is a great sport to play and leads to making new friends. Sign-ups are usually done in the spring while you are still in middle school. If you are interested, be sure to sign-up!

SOFTBALL

The softball team at Yough is always welcoming new members. It is a great opportunity to meet new friends, and have a fun experience in high school. The softball team has done pretty well in the past few years. It is definitely something to consider. You can sign up in the winter of 9th grade. You will also need to get a physical form from the office. The physical can be completed with your private doctor or at school. Being on the team means you have to be very dedicated and hard working. To have a successful year, every person on the team must put forth effort. There are normally tryouts to become part of the team.

SPIRIT CLUB

The spirit club is all about creating a fun atmosphere in and out of school. As a member of the spirit club, you will attend many school events such as football, soccer, and volleyball games. The spirit club is a way for all students to be apart of the student section and show off their orange and green! GO YOUGH!
STRATEGY GAMES

Strategy Games Club is for strategy games enthusiasts. We are generally restricted to short games due to our 30-minute club periods, but play many games within that timeframe. Magic the Gathering, Yu-gi-oh, Chess, Checkers, Munchkin, Connect 4 and Boggle are popular choices. We have at various times organized tournaments for Chess and Checkers, draft tournaments and massive group battles of Magic, and longer board games such as Risk and Axis & Allies. Strategy Games Club needs you to join the fun. Sign-ups will occur in the fall of 9th grade. All games are provided. You are encouraged to bring your own.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council is a student-based service organization and exists to represent the interests of the student body. Student Council representatives help to plan and execute major events on a monthly basis including, Red Cross Blood Drives, Freshman Orientation, Open House, the First-Grade Literacy Program, and election of Class Officers. Any student in grades 9 - 12 is eligible to join Student Council by completing an application at the beginning of the year.

SWIM TEAM

Students are able to join the Yough swim team during the winter season. Although Yough does not have a swimming pool, you are permitted to swim unattached with another swim team at their meets to qualify for a WPIAL time. You must get permission from the school’s athletic director to be allowed to swim unattached with that swim team. Meets are held after school from around 3pm to 6pm and they last about 2 hours. Your parents must take you to meets because transportation is not provided. The office gives you a paper to record your times and turn in. The swim season ends in March, depending on if you qualify for WPIALs. If you are an avid swimmer, join the swim team.

TRACK AND FIELD

Do you find joy in running? Are you strong, fit, and fast? Then track and field is for you! Sign-ups are in the winter and practices start in February. There are many different events to choose from. Running, jumping, sprints, and throwing events are available. The coaches are sure to train you well to win big in our meets against different schools! Please consider this fun, non-demanding sport.
VOLLEYBALL

Are you looking for a fun, athletic way to play your favorite sport? Then girl’s volleyball is your answer! Sign up at the end of the school year in middle school. They will call down anyone interested in participating, and give you a schedule for summer practices. Volleyball players condition all summer long and you have tryouts at the end of August. A week long camp and time to improve your skills is only part of the fun. These high school girls are always looking for talented freshmen. Sign up at the end of 8th grade.

WRESTLING

Wrestling is taken very seriously in Yough High School and they would love to have you! The season starts around the end of November, but the Cougars condition for a few months beforehand. For wrestling, the fourteen weight classes go from 106lbs to 285lbs. To participate in high school wrestling, you have to attend a meeting in middle school where the head coach will inform you of all necessary topics like headgear, shoes and a mandatory physical. Come join the Yough Cougars wrestling team! Sign-ups occur in the fall of 9th grade.

YEARBOOK

Have you ever been interested in taking pictures? Then the yearbook club is the right place for you. In yearbook, members take pictures of various events including sports events, spirit week, classes, or any other event in or out of school. These members will also be able to design the yearbook as well and decide what pictures will be put in!

YOUGH BROADCASTING NETWORK

YBN is all about the technology. At the high school, we have many TVs that the members of YBN are in charge of. Students will put up slides that can contain fun or informational text. Some slides include upcoming sports events, funny videos involving upcoming holidays, and important dates such as open house. In YBN, you will get to design what every student or staff member will see everyday!