

**BARKALOW MIDDLE SCHOOL
CLUBS LISTING
2018-2019**

Academic Team: Academic Team is offered to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students interested in academic challenges. Students participate in various academic competitions against other schools and within the Barkalow Middle School.

Debate Team – Sponsored by the PTO, this club is open to all grade levels. Debate meets on a weekly basis throughout the school year. Students will debate a variety of topics that are both complex and fun. Barkalow is a founding member of the Jersey Shore Debate League, which holds four interscholastic tournaments per year.

Drama Club: The club is open to all 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. The Barkalow Players aim to put on a spring musical each year. This club is not just for aspiring actors and actresses. Students interested in backstage activities such as lighting and set design are also encouraged to participate.

Model United Nations: This club is designed to engage students in an authentic simulation of the United Nations system by learning about the UN System, the skills of debate, compromise, conflict resolution and negotiation. Students will have fun learning about the workings of world diplomacy through the lens of current events. Membership is open to all grade levels.

Mural Club: The Mural club will be open for all 8th grade students to apply. In order to apply, students will be required to submit 3 pieces of artwork along with a written statement of why they want to join and how they can contribute to the club. Students will work first with small scale sketches, then once completed, will be projected and painted on walls throughout the building.

CTB News: School news program that focuses on events and happenings in the Barkalow community. Students will learn the film design and development while providing news and entertainment to the student body.

Peer Leadership: This group meets one to two times each week and consists of 8th grade students who provide a peer-to-peer substance abuse education program. Membership is by an application process conducted in June for the following school year. Members learn information about substance abuse and train in various group-building activities and communication skills before planning their outreach programs. Formal outreaches are then scheduled for the school community.

STEM Club: This club will align with the NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) in an effort to help strengthen essential problem solving skills and practices across disciplines and grades to increase student success and become proficient in Science. This group meets

regularly and works collaboratively to work on inquiry-based Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) related activities. There are two divisions of our Barkalow STEM club; Lego League and Design Challenge League. Our Lego League designs and codes robots and completes team building activities.

Student Council: The club is open to students in any grade who are interested in developing their leadership skills. Student representatives are elected in their first period classes and, if elected, attend **one** of two weekly meetings. Student representatives attend these meetings, verbally report the news to their first period classes, and demonstrate leadership qualities in every aspect of their school lives. Four elected Executive Board positions are held by eighth grade students each year and elections for those occur in the spring for the upcoming year. In addition, there are other leadership positions within the club for students such as Speaker of the Council, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Head Representatives.

Yearbook: This club is open to all grade levels. The club works together to create, design, and sell the Barkalow Middle School Yearbook. A computerized publishing program makes the yearbook state-of-the-art. Yearbook meets once weekly throughout the school year.

National Junior Honor Society: NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments, but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service. The five main purposes of the NJSH are the following: to create enthusiasm for scholarship; to stimulate a desire to render service; to promote leadership; to encourage responsible citizenship; and to develop character in the students of secondary schools. These purposes also translate into the criteria used for membership selection in each local chapter. (The information was taken from <https://www.njhs.us/utility/about-us>.) The NJHS meets once a month throughout the school year.

Optimist Junior Club : This club was generated to inspire students to spread kindness, empathy and good citizenship through various charitable and fun activities. Being a member of this club will benefit students because they will become socially aware of the issues facing our community. We will meet once a week during the first half of the school year. The club will be open to all Barkalow students.

Maker Club: This club is offered to all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students who are interested in taking recycled materials and creating something new, unique, and useful! Each session will help students to practice their STEAM skills and become more eco- friendly. Maker club will meet once weekly throughout the school year.

History Club: History Club is open to 6th, 7th, and 8th graders who are interested in learning more about history and current events. We plan on visiting some local historical landmarks. History Club is a new P.T.O. sponsored club for the 2018-19 school year.