





Walking down the hallway at school going to a core curriculum class is often a dread, but there is a glimmer of hope when going to that favorite elective. Luckily for students at Whitehouse High School, the course appendix offers a variety of career tracks, extra classes, and organization involvement subjects. Activities that students can participate in range from culinary to Floral Design.

But not only does Whitehouse offer these elective classes for during the day, but after school approximately 31 clubs and organizations that branch off those classes meet to give students a chance to participate in things according to their hobbies and liking.

"I would dread going to school every day if I was not involved in extracurricular activities," *Brad Thomas ('16)* said. "Being involved in Debate has been the most impacting part of my high school career. It keeps school work from being overwhelming, because there is something fun to look forward to afterwards."

Although at moments it can be overwhelming, many students jump at the chance to participate in multiple organizations.

"Teachers and coaches are so willing to work around your schedule especially for those of us that are involved in like 6 or more clubs," *Sloan Coffey ('16)* said. "I love every organization I participate in and I could not imagine giving one up for another."

Many clubs like Debate, UIL academics, Bass Club and many others give up multiple Fridays and Saturdays to compete for Whitehouse in various tournaments across Texas and the nation.

"I participate in Bass Club, Debate, UIL, and NHS," *William Hughes ('16)* said. "Each one of those activities takes up a lot of time during the week, but a lot of the time I spend with these groups is on the weekends mainly in the spring."

Some groups compete in tournaments from the beginning of the school year in the fall to the end of the school year in May. Most tournament schedules depend on how far a student or team advances.

"This year was definitely the longest UIL season I have had out of my four years of competing," *Omama Qureshi ('16)* said. "This year I advanced all the way to state in Austin. It's about time all my hard work paid off."

Qureshi was the lone representative from UIL academics to advance this year. She swept regionals by taking the Region #2 Headline Champion title.

"It is amazing to watch students willingly be dedicated and loyal to an organization that takes up a lot of free time that could be spent elsewhere," UIL Journalism coach *Paige Dyer* said. "You form a special bond with students that you cannot have when only spending 43 minutes in a classroom with 24 students at the same time."

The gratitude towards teachers for participating in more than their classes is abundant from students like *Tim Fields ('17)*.

"Mr. Nichols has done a phenomenal job running the debate organization," Fields said. "I have learned a lot from him. And I will continue to carry his knowledge with me in the future."

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