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Thanks for responding to the Westfield chess club thread; any help to get a club together will be greatly appreciated! Please email me, and I’ll add you to the mailing list (let me know if it is OK to share your email with other parents). Here is what I’ve figured out on my own so far:

1. The Westfield school counsellor is Becky Shryock ( [becky.shryock@edmondschools.net](mailto:becky.shryock@edmondschools.net) ), and she is searching for a teacher who would be willing to sponsor a club. I don’t know how hard this will be, but I assume that the school will probably try harder to find a sponsor if we have a large group of interested parents. Also, if the club has enough interest, we may be able to find financial support from the PTA to help pay for the teacher’s extra time.

2. A local kids’ chess coach named Rebecca Rutledge says she could volunteer some help to get a club started, and she has these recommendations:

* If we want to, we can purchase tournament approved chess boards in bulk ($99 will by 10 sets) <https://www.wholesalechess.com/shop/chess-sets/club-chess-sets/basic-club-chess-set-combo>
* Buying clocks or hiring professional chess coaches isn’t required or recommended for new clubs
* If we want to have a learning curriculum, there are excellent free ones available. She recommends the one provided by <https://www.chesskid.com> (accounts are free).

3. There is a statewide organization called the Oklahoma Scholastic Chess Organization that runs tournaments (among other things). My son is going to attend the Ida Freeman Open next Saturday, Jan 13 <http://www.okschess.org/event/idafreemanwinteropen2017/> . I guess this last point doesn’t help to create a club except to point out that there are team prizes at these events, and it would be fun for the kids to do it as a group.