



Aspiration into Action

MSD of Decatur Township College and Career Readiness Department

December 9, 2014 Vol. 7

Upcoming Events across the District:

- ◇ **Entrepreneur Night**
Valley Mills Elementary
December 11
Dinner 5:30 / Shopping from
6:00—8:00 p.m.
- ◇ **Entrepreneur Day**
Valley Mills Elementary
December 12
Shopping begins at 9:45a.m.
lasts all day
- ◆ **Scholarship Help Night**
Decatur Central High School
December 17
Sessions at 6:00, 6:30 & 7:00
in EDGE computer labs
DCHS & DTSE Seniors and
Parents—don't miss it!
- ▶ **Naviance Parent Registration**



What is Area 31 Career Center?

Area 31 is not a secret military installation although it is a well-kept secret on the west side of Indianapolis. Area 31 is the Career Center that serves the two high schools in Decatur as well as the high schools in Avon, Ben Davis, Brownsburg, Cascade, Danville, Monrovia, Mooresville, Plainfield, Speedway and Tri-West. There are approximately 1200 students from these schools attending the career center.

When people hear the word “Career Center” they often think of vocational programs. Vocational programs often bring to mind classes that students take who cannot “make it” in a college prep program. It is high time to **bust the stigma** associated with career center programs. Area 31 Career Center houses 39 high quality programs where students can earn dual-credit and/or industry license or certification.

In addition to earning college credit the programs lead to preparation for high demand, well-paying jobs. Some programs have employers waiting to hire graduates right after they finish high school.

Who can or should attend the career center?

Any student interested in exploring a career area, earning a technical honors diploma, anyone who likes hands-on learning experiences, or who wants to earn college credit and/or an industry certification, should seriously consider applying to the career center.

Students going into their junior or senior year can complete an application and submit it to their guidance counselor. The applications for the 2015-16 school year are due by *March 2*.

Students accepted to the program will be notified after Spring Break.



How long are the classes?

Students who attend the career center spend half of the day at their home school (DCHS or DTSE) and the other half of the day at the career center.

More about Area 31 Career Center...

Many programs are two-year programs. The 1st year program is usually held in the morning and the 2nd year is in the afternoon. Most programs are 3 periods long, but there are some that are either 1 or 2 periods long. The programs that are only 1 or 2 periods are usually combined with other programs to create a 3-period block.

Post-Secondary education for little or no cost
Virtually every program at the career center has college credits connected to it and with the exception of a couple of programs; students can earn the credits without paying anything. The amount of money saved not having to pay tuition for college credit is phenomenal.

Wait – you can get paid to go to school? Yes, just another awesome thing about the career center. Some of the programs allow students to co-op (work) during the second year of the program and get paid.

Career Center Presentation and Open House
Area 31 staff and a few current DCHS students enrolled at the career center will come to DCHS and present the programs to all sophomores and juniors on *January 21st*. There will be an **open house at the career center on *January 27*** for students and their parents to take a tour of the programs and talk to staff and current students. *Don't miss this opportunity!!!*

For more information go to <http://www.wayne.k12.in.us/area31/>