



Hawks Highlights

5108 S. High School Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46221
317-856-5274



The first nine days of school have gone very well. We spent part of the first four days of school training our students and getting to know our students. Our students are getting acclimated to the schedule, their teachers, and to their classmates. It is really hard to believe that we are already 20% of the way to Fall Break. We have a lot of work to do! A few reminders:

- * If you bring your child to school, the car rider line drops off on the east side of the Decatur Township School for Excellence. The car rider line opens at 7 a.m. I would recommend your child being dropped off no later than 7:30. Students enter Door 13 East upon arrival.
- * Students are released into the school at 7:30 a.m. They have time to grab breakfast (it is free for all students), go to their lockers, and get to their first period classes.
- * First period starts at 7:45 a.m. It is imperative that your child arrive in plenty of time to get to class by 7:45 a.m.
- * Encourage your child to get involved. Aside from athletics, band and choir, we have academic teams and Club Phoenix. Information on the Academic Team will be available soon. Club Phoenix starts on Monday, August 10.

8th Grade Washington, DC Trip

Our 8th graders are going to Washington, DC this year on May 18-22. It is not too late to sign up your child and pay your \$100 deposit. If you are new to the district or if you are now able to sign up your child, please go to the academic expeditions website (www.academicexpeditions.com), and click on the registration link. If you have any questions, please contact us. The registration will close on August 31. In September, we will have our first mandatory Washington, DC Trip meeting.

PTO

Last year, we got the PTO at Decatur Middle School back up and running. We are looking for parents to get involved as officers and as volunteers. The more help we have, the more we can do for our students and staff. Our first PTO meeting is going to be on Monday, September 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Decatur Middle School cafeteria. The other meetings this semester are October 5, November 2, and December 7 at 6:30 p.m. I look forward to seeing many of you're here!

I hope everyone has a great weekend!

- Kyle Barrentine, Principal

Important Dates

- Thurs, Aug 13—Football 7/8 A vs. Terre Haute—6:30pm/7:40pm
- Mon, Aug 17—Girls Soccer @ Beech Grove—5:15pm
- Tues, Aug 18—Boys Soccer @ Beech Grove—6:30pm
- Thurs, Aug 20—Football 7 A/B @ Clark-Pleasant—5:30pm/6:40pm
- Thurs, Aug 18—Football 8 A/B vs. Clark-Pleasant—5:30pm/6:45pm

Attendance as of Aug 5 —

YTD Daily Average:
97.08%
Goal: 96%

From the Nurse



PARENTS—you MUST go online through Skyward and complete the Nurse Forms in order for your child to be seen at the Nurse's Office.

Students CANNOT bring in their own medications with a parental note. ALL medications, prescription or over-the-counter, MUST be brought in BY A PARENT to the Nurse's Office.

Welcome Back DMS Families!

PBIS—RESPECT for all; RESPONSIBILITY is mine; CARE for everyone



DMS School-Wide Expectations

Our PBIS Kick-Off unfolded during the first week of school this year. Students were taught what Respect, Responsibility and Caring looks like in the classroom, the cafeteria, when they arrive in the morning, when they depart after school, in the restroom, and in all other areas of their school environment. Teachers defined and modeled inappropriate and appropriate behavior expectations for all students who started the year with us. These behavior expectations will be reinforced throughout the year with various incentive activities and booster lessons. Students who model the expectations receive incentive/reward rings from all staff members throughout the building to recognize and reinforce their positive behaviors. They can exchange their incentive rings for various items in our Ring Station during their lunch period throughout the school year! Many thanks to Mrs. Vaughn (parent volunteer) for volunteering again to run the Ring Station this year! It will be open three to four days a week for students to redeem their incentive rings.

It is the Board's commitment to provide a safe, positive, productive and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. Any individual who believes a student has been or is the victim of discrimination, bullying, or harassment should report the situation to the building principal or designee or complete the School District's Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying report form, which is available online at www.msddecatur.k12.in.us.

Daily Schedule

With the no early release Mondays and the new school year, it can be difficult to remember when classes are taking place. Below is each SLC (Small Learning Community) schedule.

Explorations

7:45am-8:40am—Period 1
8:44am-9:36am—Period 2
9:40am-10:32am—Period 3
10:36am-11:06am—LUNCH
11:10am-11:40am—I & E
11:44am-12:36pm—Period 4
12:40pm-1:32pm—Period 5
1:36pm—2:28pm—Period 6
2:32pm—2:45pm—STAR

Imagine

7:45am-8:40am—Period 1
8:44am-9:36am—Period 2
9:40am-10:32am—Period 3
10:36am-11:06am—I & E
11:10am-11:40am—LUNCH
11:44am-12:36pm—Period 4
12:40pm—1:32pm—Period 5
1:36pm—2:28pm—Period 6
2:32pm-2:45pm—STAR

Apex

7:45am-8:40am—Core
8:44am-9:36am—Core
9:40am—10:32am—Core
10:36am-11:28am—Core
11:32am—12:24pm—Core
12:28pm—12:58pm—Core
1:02pm-1:32pm—LUNCH
1:36pm-2:28pm—Core
2:32pm-2:45pm—STAR

Global

7:45am-8:40am—Period 1
8:44am-9:36am—Period 2
9:40am-10:32am—Period 3
10:36am-11:28am—Period 4
11:32am-12:24pm—Period 5
12:28pm-12:58pm—LUNCH
1:02pm-1:32pm—I & E
1:36pm-2:28pm—Period 6
2:32pm-2:45pm—STAR

What is PBIS?

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is an approach to creating and maintaining positive school climates where all students, families, and staff feel safe and welcome. This approach has been adopted and adapted by over 18,000 schools nationwide. PBIS provides a framework that schools can use to develop a common set of positive expectations to create a caring learning community. The approach emphasized defining, teaching, and reinforcing the behaviors we expect instead of focusing on the negative behaviors. By reducing and preventing most of the discipline problems that interfere with learning, it creates an environment where teachers can teach and students can learn.

For more information about the program, volunteer opportunities, or to donate items/funds for the Ring Station, please contact Gail Barrett, PBIS Internal Coach, at 856-5274 ext. 8014.

Car Rider Drop-Off & Pick-Up

Just a friendly reminder that students should be dropped off and picked up on the back side of Decatur Middle School, NOT at the front circle, unless they are coming to school after the beginning of the day.

The Car Rider Line is located just east of the DTSE on High School Road. You will enter the parking lot at the end of the DTSE (near the Log Cabin) and then follow the circle drive around. School staff is out at the sidewalk each morning, directing traffic and students. Students will enter and exit through Door 13E (between DMS and the Technology Center).

