



DECATUR MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Hawk Highlights

ISSUE I

SEPTEMBER 9, 2016



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- September 14—Indy Westside College Fair
- September 30—JobSpark Fair (8th Graders Only)
- November 10—Indianapolis International Festival (Global SLC Only)

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I trust that everyone had a great Labor Day weekend. The weather certainly cooperated this year!

If you have a Twitter account, a great way to follow all things Decatur Middle School is through Twitter. Decatur Middle School has five Twitter accounts. There is an overall Twitter account for Decatur Middle School, and there is a Twitter account for each of the four Small Learning Communities. In order to get the most out of your Twitter account, you should follow the general account for Decatur Middle School, and you should follow the Twitter account of your child's Small Learning Community (SLC). The Twitter accounts post pictures and announcements specific to the school and to each specific SLC. They are all great sources of information. Please follow the accounts below:

- @DecaturMSHawks: Decatur Middle School
- @GlobalHawksDMS: Global SLC
- @ExplorationsDMS: Explorations SLC
- @ImagineDMS: Imagine SLC
- @ApexNTCommunity: Apex SLC

I would also encourage you to follow the MSD of Decatur Township Twitter account as well. Like all of our accounts, this is a great source of information for the entire school district as well as the Decatur Township Community. The district's Twitter account is @MSDDecatur.

Have a great weekend!

- Kyle Barrentine, Principal

The core mission of this school is the creation of highly engaging activities, materials, and settings for learning that are too good—too interesting—for students to resist AND increases student achievement.

The MSD of Decatur Township is *Student Invested, Community Connected*. We prioritize *Student Learning, Safety and Customer Service*, fostering a support system for our families.



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.

Apex SLC News



TA'NIYA
CALAHAN
Student of the Week
Week of August 29, 2016



LORI JONES
Student of the Week
Week of August 29, 2016



Global SLC News



Ms. Reed's Community Service Crew's Snack Shack is officially open for business! This group of young entrepreneurs regularly manages inventory, balances budgets, and practices customer service skills. Students can purchase healthy snacks for \$1 every day during a designated passing period. Seventh grade students can purchase snacks after 2nd period, and eighth grade students can purchase snacks after 4th period. All proceeds benefit the Global small learning community.

Student-led conferences are right around the corner (September 28 and 29). By the end of the week, Global students should come home with letters from their STAR teachers with information about scheduling conferences. With that said, students will be released one hour early on conference days.

In Ms. Murray's 7th grade language arts classes, students are investigating stereotypes while reading S.E. Hinton's *The Outsiders*. This is a powerful novel that explores relationships, stereotypes, and internal/external struggles. Here are some discussion questions to ask your students around the dinner table:



- How are the "Greasers" and "Socs" alike? How are they different?
- How do Ponyboy's relationships with Darry and Sodapop differ? Explain.
- Which character do you relate to the most? Why?

In Mrs. Lowe's 8th grade language arts classes, students are exploring the mysteries of the brain as they read

Phineas Gage, which discusses the effects of a real-life serious brain injury. Some questions to ask your student might include:



- What impact did this accident and its documentation have on what we know today about the nature of the brain?
- Would the outcome for Phineas be different today? Why or why not and how?
- Was Phineas lucky or unlucky, in your opinion?



In Mrs. Tejchma's 7th grade high ability science class, teams of students designed and implemented their own velocity labs. Data was carefully collected using their iPads.

We are excited to announce a service-learning partnership between DMS's Global community and DCHS's Choice Academy! Throughout the year, middle and high school students will work together to combine academic skills with giving back to the community. In preparation for this partnership, next week, Choice Academy students will train our Global students on service-learning: What is service-learning? What are the benefits of service-learning?

DMS Service-learning Training Dates:

- Monday, September 12: 7th grade
- Tuesday, September 13: 7th grade
- Thursday, September 15: 8th grade
- Monday, September 19: 8th grade

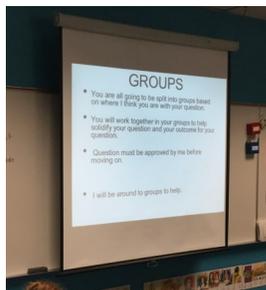
Explorations SLC News

7th and 8th grade Explorations students have been participating in workshops focusing on iTime passion projects. iTime, also known as Genius Hour, is time allocated for our students to explore their passion.



Students have generated a list of 16 passions narrowing down their list to one champion passion. For example, one student is passionate about raising awareness about blind-

ness. Another student plans to organize a “Stuff the Bus” project to fill a school bus with supplies for local areas of need. Many students are currently working on developing their outcome for their passion project. Please ask an Explorations student to describe his/her passion project to you.



Student-led Conferences: We will be sending home information with your child to schedule a Student-led Conference on September 28 or 29. A Student-led conference is a conference where students lead the conference explaining their academic progress this school year.

Follow us on Twitter at @ExplorationsDMS to see daily activities that occur in Explorations classes.

Sign up for *Remind* to receive regular text message notifications about upcoming Explorations events.

- 7th Grade Explorations Families: Text @7expl617 to 81010
- 8th Grade Explorations Families: Text @8expl617 to 81010

Imagine SLC News



In 7th Grade Imagine, students utilized Artful Learning in their unit on Connections. In this activity they created personal interest webs and the connected their interest with another person in their STAR class. The purpose of this activity was to show the students even though they came from several different elementary schools and backgrounds as individuals, together we can work to create bigger and new learning experiences here at DMS.

In 8th Grade Imagine, our students used the grid model to enlarge Touch the Sun by Sakuro Charno. This process mimicked the process of development of the Atomic Theory. The more thoroughly each student completed his/her part the more clear the whole image became. If a random green dot appears in the middle of the yellow field, the image is different. This is just as one atom can change a molecule. Another great example of Artful Learning in our small learning community!



ATTENTION PARENTS: Upcoming field trips in Imagine! 09/23/16—8th grade visit to Lucas Oil Raceway & Eagle Creek State Park.

Congratulations to our first S.W.A.G.

Students of the Week!!!

7th Grade—Matthew Miller



8th Grade—Alan Ferrell



Calendar of Events

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>12</p> <p>5:15pm—7/8 Volleyball—Marion Co. Tourney (Pike HS)</p> <p>5:30pm—Girls Soccer vs. Doe Creek</p> <p>6:30pm—PTO Meeting—DMS Cafeteria</p>	<p>13</p> <p>4:30pm—Girls Golf @ Doe Creek</p> <p>5:15pm—7/8 Volleyball @ Paul Hadley</p> <p>5:15pm—Boys Soccer @ Perry Meridian</p> <p>5:15pm—Cross Country vs. Paul Hadley</p> <p>5:30pm—Girls Soccer @</p>	<p>14</p> <p>4:30pm—Boys/Girls Golf vs. Beech Grove @ Eagle Pines</p> <p>5:15pm—7/8 Volleyball vs. Perry Meridian</p> <p>5:15pm—Tennis vs. Lincoln</p>	<p>15</p> <p>4:30pm—Boys/Girls Golf @ Speedway</p> <p>5:15pm—Tennis vs. Plainfield</p> <p>5:30pm—7 A/B Football @ Franklin Community</p> <p>5:45pm—8 A/B Football vs. Franklin Community</p>	<p>16</p> <p>3:00pm—Student Council Dance—DMS Gym (ends at 5pm)</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>19</p> <p>5:15pm—7/8 Volleyball vs. Plainfield</p> <p>5:15pm—Cross Country vs. FTMS West, John Wooden & Mooresville Christian</p> <p>5:15pm—Girls Soccer vs. Clark-Pleasant</p> <p>5:15pm—Tennis @ John Wooden</p> <p>6:45pm—Boys Soccer vs. Clark-Pleasant</p>	<p>20</p> <p>4:30pm—Boys Golf @ Chapel Hill</p> <p>5:30pm—7/8 Volleyball vs. Martinsville</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7/8 B Volleyball @ Center Grove North</p> <p>5:30pm—Boys & Girls Soccer vs. Westlane</p>	<p>22</p> <p>4:30pm—Girls Golf vs. Monrovia & Indian Creek @ Eagle Pines</p> <p>5:15pm—Cross Country @ Chapel Hill</p> <p>5:15pm—Tennis Mid-State vs. Clark-Pleasant</p> <p>5:30pm—7/8 B Volleyball @ Cascade</p> <p>5:30pm—7 A/B Football @ Plainfield</p> <p>5:45pm—8 A/B Football vs. Plainfield</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8th Grade Imagine Field Trip to Raceway & Eagle Creek Park</p> <p>Boys Golf Mid-State @ Deer Creek</p> <p>Girls Golf Mid-State @ Fox Cliff</p> <p>Picture Re-Takes</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00am—Tennis Semi & Finals Mid-State @ Custer Baker</p> <p>11:00am—7/8 Volleyball Mid-State Tourney @ Clark-Pleasant</p>

Are you or is someone you know looking for a rewarding employment opportunity and the chance to make a difference on a part-time or full-time basis? Do you like working with children with disabilities and helping them reach their highest potential? If so, please consider applying to be a special education substitute teacher in our Comprehensive Intervention Program (CIP) and/or Developmental Preschool classrooms. In Decatur Township our CIP classes are self-contained, special education classrooms designed to support the needs of students with disabilities who require more individualized and small group supports and services. Developmental Preschool is a self-contained classroom for our 3 and 4 year olds with disabilities. In both of these settings, you would be one member of the team as a substitute and would have the support of the other regular staff members in the room to get to know the students and procedures. MSD of Decatur Township currently has openings for these special education substitute positions posted on our website. In addition to working with amazing students, these positions follow the school calendar and would be ideal if you have children already enrolled in our school system. If you are interested or would like more information, please visit our website at www.decaturlproud.org and apply today! **Current pay is \$100 per school day!**

**NOW
HIRING**

Indy Westside College Fair

2016

Over 100 post-secondary institutions & organizations

Representatives will include:

- Nationally ranked College & Universities
- Technical/Vocational Schools/ROTC/Military
- Community Organizations

There is **NO CHARGE** to attend this event.
Open to **ALL** students and families!

Ben Davis High School

1200 N. Girls School Rd. Indianapolis, IN 46214

Location: MPA – Enter through Door 5

Wednesday, September 14' 2016

6:30pm - 8:00pm

Confirmed for 2016!

21st Century Scholars Albion College American Honors at Ivy Tech Ancilla College Anderson University Arcadia University Art Institute of Indianapolis Baldwin Wallace University Ball State University Bellarmine University Bethel College Bowling Green State Boyce College Brescia University Butler University Calumet College of Saint Joseph Capital University Cedarville University Central State University CLD Cleveland State University Concordia University Chicago Dartmouth College Denison University DePauw University Earlham College Eastern Illinois University Eastern Kentucky University Empire Beauty School Florida Southern College Franklin College Goshen College Grace College & Seminary Greenville College Hanover College Huntington University Indiana Latino Institute	Indiana State University Indiana Tech Indiana University IU School of Education IUPUI IPFW IUPUC IUPUI - Kelly Ivy Tech Comm. College Johnson & Wales Kentucky Wesleyan College Kettering University Lawrence Tech University Lawrence University Lewis University Lilly School of Philanthropy Lincoln Tech Lincoln University Manchester College Marian University Millikin University Morgan State University Mount St. Joseph Northern Kentucky University Northwood University Olivet Nazarene University Otterbein University Penn State University Purdue University Purdue University Northwest Rose Hulman Quincy University Rose Hulman Saint Joseph's College Saint Mary of the Woods Saint Mary's College School of Advertising Art	Spring Arbor University Seton Hall University Shepherd Community Center SIU - Carbondale Spelman College Thomas More College Transylvania University Trine University University of Alabama University of Evansville University of Indianapolis University of Kentucky University of Louisville University of Notre Dame University of Pittsburgh University of Notre Dame University of Saint Francis University of Southern Indiana University of Toledo US Armed Forces – All Branches Valparaiso University Vincennes University Wabash College Wayne Twp Ed Found. Western Kentucky University Western Michigan University Wilmington College Wittenberg University The College of Wooster
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Add many more....

Contact Anna Coyne, College Admissions Coordinator (anna.coyne@wayne.k12.in.us), for event details.