

WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU AS PART OF OUR #DECATURPROUD COMMUNITY!



K-12 students are invited to register at their future school on:

- Wednesday, July 13**
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- Thursday, July 14**
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- Saturday, July 16**
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM



Congratulations to our 2016 Graduates of Decatur Central High School and Decatur Township School for Excellence!



*Photos courtesy of NBC Olympics

DCHS Graduate Ready to Make a Splash at 2016 Olympics

Hawks are known to have extraordinary eyesight, and one Hawk in particular has hers set on a destination far south of here: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Decatur Central High School graduate and Team USA diver Amy Cozad punched her ticket to the 2016 Olympic Games on June 17 after competing at the IUPUI Natatorium in Indianapolis. She will compete in Rio with former Indiana University teammate Jessica Parratto in the women's synchronized 10-meter event.

Cozad, who graduated from DCHS in 2009 and competed at the collegiate level at Indiana University-Bloomington, is a six-time national champion in synchronized 10-meter platform diving. Cozad not only succeeded on the Big Ten school's diving platform, but also excelled in the classroom as well. She was named Academic All-Big Ten and graduated with a degree in math education from IU in 2013.

The 2016 Olympic Games will begin on Friday, August 5 and conclude on Sunday, August 21. We would like to wish our fellow Hawk Amy Cozad, fellow Hoosier Jessica Parratto and the rest of Team USA the best of luck as they prepare for the 2016 Olympic Games!

Congratulations Amy Cozad—we are #DecaturProud of you!

Message from the Superintendent:

Welcome to the MSD of Decatur Township Newsletter! As a valued member of our community, this resource is dedicated to keeping you informed and involved with our school corporation while showcasing the many remarkable individuals within it. Here at Decatur Township Schools, we believe in providing an educational experience to nurture, guide and encourage our students to create the quality life they each deserve. Together, we are #DecaturPROUD! - Dr. Matthew Prusiecki





DCHS Natatorium Open to Public This Summer

Join us this summer at the Decatur Township Natatorium, located at the DCHS campus, for open swim, water aerobics and swim lessons!

Open Swim:

12-3 p.m. Mon., Wed., Fri.,
June 6 - July 22

Swim Lessons:

7:05 p.m. Mon. & Weds., July 6 - 27
7:05 p.m. Tues. & Thurs., July 5 - 28

For more information, contact:

Curtis Cox, Aquatics Director

Email: cjcox@msddecatur.k12.in.us

Phone: 317-856-2120 ext. 28006

SUMMER EVENT SPOTLIGHT:

The DCHS campus is busy this summer as all TWENTY of our sports teams are practicing and getting ready for their upcoming seasons. Our teams include: Football, Cheerleading, Boys/Girls Soccer, Volleyball, Boys/Girls Cross Country, Boys/Girls Golf, Boys/Girls Swimming and Diving, Boys/Girls Basketball, Wrestling, Softball, Baseball, Boys/Girls Track and Field, Boys/Girls Tennis.

If you have any questions about our athletics schedules, programs, or how to join, please contact Athletic Director, Justin Dixson at jdixson@msddecatur.k12.in.us. Together, we are #DecaturProud!



CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT:

Mr. Kenny Owens: Engineering Design & Development

Opportunities are endless at MSD of Decatur Township. Students at Decatur Central High School get to develop the concept and design of a go-kart, personally build and race it at the iconic Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS), thanks to Mr. Kenny Owens. In his Engineering Design & Development class at DCHS, students essentially get to learn what it's like to start and maintain their own business.

"The students become a full racing team. They have to find sponsors, market themselves and promote their business at events throughout the area. We're really taking what we've learned out of the classroom and applying it in a way that will teach them for the future," Owens said. Each racing team builds their own go-kart and travels to the IMS each May, where they share their design and race their final go-karts in a 15-lap event called the EV Grand Prix. Two of the racing teams won first and third place this past May, solidifying MSD of Decatur Township as a place where innovative education is a top priority.

"What sets our school district apart from others is that we have flexibility to try new things. We're trusted that even if we fail, we learn from mistakes and always do what is best for our students," said Owens. Engineering Design & Development is part of the DCHS learning community called New Tech, where students use computers and technology each day to advance their knowledge and their futures.

STAY CONNECTED:

Visit decaturproud.org for the latest updates and scheduled events.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Bryan Hummel

People spend their entire lives trying to find their passion, but not 2016 Decatur Central High School graduate Bryan Hummel. “When I was younger I always wanted to be a musician, but after I took an engineering class, I was hooked. I began creating programs and learning code and really tuned into this technological side of me,” Hummel said.

After seeing a 3D printer while volunteering at a school science fair, Hummel started to spend time with Mrs. Deana Beecher, the media specialist at DCHS, and developed unique capabilities and a level of understanding that no other student could match. He served as an assistant at the 3D summer camp offered each year for Decatur Township students and helped several days a week throughout the school year as students utilized the printer for coursework. “I’m really one of the only students who knows how to really handle and fix the 3D printers. A college even sent my engineering teacher a printer so I helped set that up and recode the printer,” said Hummel.

And even though he graduated, he has no intention to stop learning about technology and development anytime soon. “I am saving money to make my own 3D printer from scratch. I have learned all the parts, I’ve built computers several times before and I have learned how to code them on my own. My time at Decatur Central really helped me find what I love,” said Hummel.

Why we're #DECATURPROUD:



Students from Decatur Central High School's organization “Students in Action” visited our nation's capital this month to attend the Jefferson Awards Foundation Gala. Incoming senior Morgan Wade was named a National Finalist for a Lead 360 Award in February, and spoke onstage at the conference about the importance of public service and leadership!

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Susan Bryant

IASP 2016 Principal of the Year (District 7)

For 30 years, Susan Bryant has served the MSD of Decatur Township school system with passion, purpose and pride. As the current Principal of Liberty Early Elementary School, MSD of Decatur Township's centralized kindergarten and preschool, she provides students with an educational environment where they are nurtured, respected and have the opportunity to thrive. “We really focus on student outcomes and student needs. We teach the whole child, not just worrying about test scores, but about trying to prepare good citizens for life and build a better community through the kids that we serve,” she said.

Bryant has taught at several different schools in the district, serving as a teacher for kindergarten, grades 1, 2, 4, 5, and as an assistant principal, so she's no stranger to understanding the importance of enjoying the learning process. The banner that

hangs at Liberty Elementary sums up Bryant's personal initiative in a simple phrase: “The Love of Learning Begins Here.”

“We give our students a strong foundation in learning with a focus on loving learning. Our main goal is to make kids so eager to come to school that they never want to miss. We get calls from parents a lot saying, ‘My child has a fever, but she's just begging to come to school!’ It means a lot that kids want to be here,” she said. And the happiness Bryant brings to the students at Liberty is evident. As she walks through the door of a kindergarten classroom where students are reading, heads quickly turn and bright smiles appear. “A lot of kids are afraid of the principal at this age because their parents say, ‘Now don't get in trouble, you'll have to see the principal!’ But there are kids that come up and say ‘I love you’ and it makes everything worthwhile,” Bryant said.



Bryant is proud of the district she's grown to love and the staff she works with each day. “People sometimes will grumble about their children's schools. It's easy to talk us up to other parents because we offer so many wonderful programs and we have an incredibly dedicated staff. You can come here on the weekend and they're working and getting things ready for our kids. Everyone will do whatever it takes to make this a good place for our kids,” she said.



MSD of Decatur Township
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#DECATURPROUD



#DECATURPROUD NEWSLETTER | SUMMER EDITION 3

IN THIS ISSUE

K-12 registration for 2016-2017 academic school year

DCHS Graduate Ready to Make a Splash at 2016 Olympics

DCHS Natatorium Open to Public This Summer

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:
Bryan Hummel

CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT:
Mr. Kenny Owens

STAFF SPOTLIGHT:
Susan Bryant