



DECATUR MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Hawk Highlights

ISSUE 3

SEPTEMBER 29, 2017



Hard to believe, but we are at the end of our first nine weeks of this school year. As we work our way to our second quarter, please see the notes below:

- Next week, Decatur Middle School will be hosting a book fair throughout the entire week. Students will get an opportunity to check it out during the week. Please plan to spend some time browsing during conferences as well!!
- On Wednesday, October 4, there is no school for students. Our teachers will be here to meet with you and your child in our student-led conferences. We look forward to meeting with you and having your child show you all they've accomplished this year.
- Speaking of accomplishments, on Tuesday, October 10 at 6:00pm, we will host our Quarter 1 Awards Program. This will be for students who are on the A-B Honor Roll for Quarter 1 and for some other students who have met our PBIS expectations of respect, responsibility and care. Invitations will be given to students and parents early next week.
- I want to thank you for your support with our new cell phone policy. We will continue to need your support as the year goes on with this policy by encouraging your child to play his/her phone in his/her locker upon arriving to school.
- One on-going issue that we have been having with our school dress code is with hoodies. While students are permitted to wear them into the building, hoodies are not allowed to be worn during the school day. Your support in encouraging your child to adhere to our school dress code is greatly appreciated.

We are 1/4 of the way through the school year. We will be working with our students to continue to improve socially, emotionally, and academically through the next three quarters of the school year. This kind of improvement is continuous. If you have any concerns, please contact your child's SLC Director or me.

Have a great weekend!

- Kyle Barrentine, Principal

Apex SLC News



The 1st quarter of the year is coming to a close. This week, all 8th graders had the opportunity to see where their hard work might lead them at the JA JobSpark event. Learners had the opportunity to explore different career paths through simulations, professional discussions, and hands-on practice. Learners were

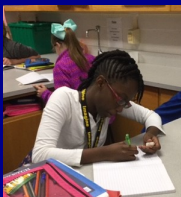
working hard to wrap up Raising a Revolution and to complete this quarter's common assessments. We are excited to celebrate their success with them!



able to try out careers in the fields of health sciences, agriculture, technology and computer engineering, and hospitality and leisure, just to name a few. In the building, they have been

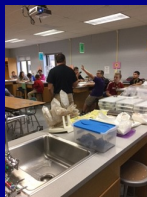


Imagine SLC News

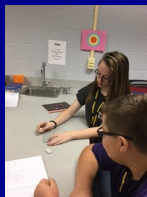


7th Grade

In Ms. Uebelhor's 7th grade Science class, students have been learning a lot about the Rock Cycle the last couple of weeks. Students have studied samples of igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks. By creating models in the lab, students are able to see how rocks transform into Metamorphic and Sedimentary Rocks.



In addition, Mr. Smith, Purdue scientist, visited, brought crystals, and explained that crystals can be found in certain types of rocks. While the students worked with Mr. Smith, they tested the minerals for hardness, color and streak.



Students have "traveled" through the rock cycle. Currently, students are working on their Rock Cycle Comic Strip to illustrate how rocks are transformed as they travel through the Rock Cycle.

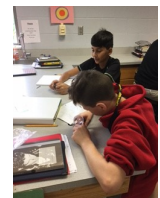
8th Grade

In Imagine 8th grade Science, students have started learning to code! Coding is a very specific way

to give computer instructions. Our students began without even touching computers or iPads. The students wrote instructions for their partners. It turns out that even those instructions had to be very specific in order to get the right action. Students will begin more thorough coding in the SWIFT language each week in Science class.

Beginning in the 2nd term, 8th graders will begin to look carefully at genetics and the DNA that makes us...us!

As a reminder, don't forget to follow us on Twitter @ImagineDms and on Facebook (dmsimagine) to see all of the great things going on in our SLC!



Explorations SLC News



7th Grade Explorations

Students in Mrs. Gibbs' 7th Grade ELA classes have been studying different types of conflicts while reading The Outsiders. They have learned the type of conflict and provide evidence supporting their response. The 7th grade students will be heading to Zionsville to view The Outsiders and see the conflicts they have identified in action. We are looking forward to this opportunity. Please make sure the field trip permission slip for this trip is returned by Friday, October 6.



Student-Led Conferences

Student-led Conferences will be conducted on Wednesday, October 4, 2017. Teachers have sent home information confirming your assigned conference time and room location. Students will be sharing and reflecting upon their work from the first quarter during their conference.

After School Study Table

Explorations hosted our first after school study table on Wednesday, September 20. All students who attended the session worked really hard during their time together. Since this was such a success, we plan to host more study table sessions in the future.

8th Grade Explorations

8th Grade students attended the JA JobSpark field trip this past Tuesday. Students had the opportunity to talk with professionals in various career fields to see what those occupations entail. When students returned to school the following day, they reflected upon their experience. We really enjoyed seeing our students conversing with career professionals

Explorations Fund Raiser



Our Creative Gatherings Wood Painting Sign Fundraiser hosted on Tuesday, September 26, was a great time. It was awesome to see students and some family members spending time together while tapping into their creative side. Thank you to all who were able to attend.

Follow us on Twitter at @ExplorationsDMS and like us on Facebook at DMS Explorations to see 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 @7exp1718 to 81010
- 8th Grade Explorations Families: Text @8exp1718 to 81010

Global SLC News



On Tuesday, October 10, 8th grade Global students will be volunteering at the Million Meal Marathon held at Lucas Oil Stadium! Students will be working alongside Colts players and local businesses to package pre-made meals for hungry Hoosiers, as well as victims of the recent hurricanes. Participating students will also receive free T-shirts! This is a completely free field trip—students need only return a signed permission slip AND waiver. Electronic copies of the forms can be found below. Please print, sign, and return to Mrs. Lowe no later than



7:45am on Friday, October 6. Those not attending will remain at school for supervised study.

Click [here](#) to see a short video that highlights the work students will be doing October 10!

Digital Copies of Forms:

- ⇒ [Permission Slip](#)
- ⇒ [Waiver](#)



Calendar of Events

Monday-Friday, October 2-6

- Scholastic Book Fair—DMS Media Center

Tuesday, October 3

- 5:15pm—7/8 Volleyball vs. Franklin Twp. West @ DMS
- 5:15pm—Girls Soccer—Mid-State Semis @ DMS
- 6:30pm—Boys Soccer—Mid-State Semis @ DMS

Wednesday, October 4

- Student Led Conferences—NO SCHOOL
- 5:15pm—Cross Country—Mid-State @ Clark-Pleasant
- 6:30pm—Washington, DC Trip Parent Meeting—DMS Cafeteria

Thursday, October 5

- 5:15pm—Girls Soccer—Mid-State Finals @ Plainfield Cmty. MS
- 5:30pm—7th Grade Football vs. John Wooden MS @ DMS
- 5:30pm—8th Grade Football @ John Wooden MS
- 6:45pm—Boys Soccer—Mid-State Finals @ Plainfield Cmty. MS

Tuesday, October 10

- 6pm—Quarter I Awards Program—DMS Cafeteria

Thursday, October 12

- 5:30pm—Fall Sports Awards Program—DMS Cafeteria

Monday-Friday, October 16-20

- FALL BREAK—NO SCHOOL

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.

WHERE WILL YOUR ROAD TAKE YOU?

High School 101
October 4th, 2017

Post Secondary Pathway Fair including colleges, apprenticeships and military representatives

Tables and booths will be set up in the main hallway and commons from 9-7 pm

Are you a 21st Century Scholar?

Visit with 21st Century Scholar representatives and create your ScholarTrack account, check the status of your Scholar Success Program, or ask any general questions.

Representatives will be in the media center computer lab from 4-7 pm

8th grade parent informational meetings in the auditorium at 4:30 and 6:30

*How to read a transcript and what diploma type is best for your student?

*How to use Course Planner to create your student's four year plan.

*Course offerings, including upper level, AP, Dual Credit classes and Project Lead the Way.

21st Century Scholars



Indiana's 21st Century Scholars program offers income-eligible Hoosier students up to four years of paid tuition at an eligible Indiana college or university after they graduate from high school, dependent upon financial need. 7th and 8th grade Indiana students whose families meet income eligibility guidelines can apply to become a 21st Century Scholar. Applications must be received by June 30 of the student's 8th grade year.

To apply, you can visit Scholars.IN.gov, call the 21st Century Scholars office at 1-888-528-4719 OR contact Gail Barrett, Guidance Counselor at Decatur Middle School, at 317-856-5274 ext. 8014 or via email at gbarrett@msddecatur.k12.in.us.

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.