A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Decatur Township Families,

During these new and challenging times, MSD of Decatur Township has strived to adjust and continue to provide a learning opportunity for our school community. Providing food every Monday has been a rewarding experience! We are here to support the community as best possible. eLearning is new and different for all communities. However, I am excited by the hard work our teachers, technology team and administrators as they have adjusted to make our learning environment one of the best in the State of Indiana. Moving forward, our goal is to continue to refine our delivery of eLearning, transition from this school year to the next, and most importantly, recognize our Class of 2020. We will have a graduation ceremony for our Seniors as we want to acknowledge in the most personal way possible, their achievement of graduating high school. Also, we plan to have online registration for next school year, making the transition from the 2019-2020 to the 2020-2021 school year as seamless as possible.

Lastly, I would like to share how thankful we are to be a part of the Decatur Township School Community. I encourage everyone to maintain the safety protocols of hand washing, social distancing and staying home as much as possible. We thank all of our first responders. Check out the video on the homepage of the MSD of Decatur website for a special “Thank You” to our Decatur Township first responders. If you know a graduate that is a first responder to this crisis, please share it with us ASAP so we may recognize their bravery and hard work. In summary, continue to strive to be the best version of you. We are stronger together as we work through this difficult time.

As always, be safe and, together, we are Decatur Proud!

Respectfully,

Dr. Matthew J. Prusiecki
Superintendent
MATT DAY


Matt is a math teacher in ICE Academy at Decatur Central High School.

Matt grew up loving everything about music while playing the piano, guitar, and saxophone. After graduating from Indiana University with a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics Education, he began work on composing his first musical, Paper Swords, which was recently accepted into the 2020 Chicago Musical Theatre Festival.

Paper Swords is a romantic comedy musical, focusing on two groups of live action role-players (LARPers) as they navigate adolescence. When the king announces his retirement, the teenagers and the kingdom of Eloren are thrown into shambles. To determine the next ruler of the land, the knights of competing teams Ferndrey and Silvermore must battle one another for the throne.
3D PENGUINS AT WEST NEWTON ELEMENTARY GO INTERNATIONAL

Third grade students created 3-dimensional penguins during a special event with clay facilitated by visiting artist Ellen Cornelius in the West Newton art room. Students hand-built the figures and then used ceramic glaze to colorize their penguins. The penguins are patiently waiting to go to their homes with their third grade creators. However, in the meantime, they are receiving international fame as a result of a posted picture that was seen by the Skutt Clay Company which is based in Portland, Oregon. Skutt is one of the largest international manufacturers of ceramic and glass art products for artists.

Skutt Clay Company reached out to Tracey Krell, West Newton’s art teacher, for permission to showcase the delightfully clever student clay artwork. The penguins will proudly be featured on their website that hosts a venue of outstanding clay artists and teacher resources. You can check them out at https://skutt.com/

INNOVATE WITHIN COMPETITION

Ball State University, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation and the Indiana Department of Education partnered again this year to continue the high school student competition for Indiana’s future entrepreneurs. This year there were over 400 students from 50 high schools registered to participate in the competition. More than 150 teams submitted video pitches to be considered in Round 1. Of those pitches, up to 10 teams were selected to represent their region in Round 2 of the competition.

In addition to Paper Swords, Matt’s other work includes the 2019 IndyFringe Festival Audience Choice Winner Make Me A Match as well as other solo work, including “No Limits” a collaboration between Purdue University and NASA to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the moon landing. Matt also works as a professional guitarist in Indianapolis, playing in various pit orchestras around the city.

You can learn more about Matt by visiting his website http://www.mattdaymusic.net/
Two students from Decatur Township School for Excellence were selected to advance to Round 2 of the competition for Region 9: Alexis Allison and Charles McIntosh.

On March 9, 2020, Alexis and Charles competed against seven other teams from Region 9 (Marion County). They pitched the idea of “Water Camper” - a waterproof tent that has the capability of floating. The pair indicated the tent would be extremely useful for homeless people who live near the White River or any location where there is risk of flooding.

KINDergarten REGISTRATION -
LIBERTy EARLY ELEMENTARY

It is time to begin the registration process for the 2020-2021 school year at Liberty!

We aren’t able to do our in-person registration right now, but you may complete Phase I of registration from home. Complete the online portion of the registration process.

Phase II will be scheduled once buildings reopen, which includes additional paperwork and collection of documents (birth certificate, immunization record, proof of residency and parent’s picture ID). Your child will be registered for school once both Phase I and Phase II are completed.

In order to register for Kindergarten your child must turn five (5) years old by August 1. If your child will not be five by August 1 but will turn 5 in the month of August, you may request an early entrance assessment by emailing acummings@decaturproud.org. You may not complete registration without approval if your child does not meet the age requirements.

If you would like a child for preschool, here is some current information:

- Our full-day, tuition-based preschool slots are full, but we are accepting students on the waiting list.
We still have slots open for full-day students with an On My Way PreK voucher from the State of Indiana.

We have slots open for tuition-based half-day preschool. We have openings in our 5-day per week classes for 3 year olds and for 4 year olds. This year we also have 2-day and 3-day per week openings for 3 year olds.

We are also continuing to enroll students with IEPs for preschool services.

If you are interested in enrolling your child for preschool, please email smeier@decaturproud.org. You will not be able to complete registration without prior approval for preschool.

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**DCHS LAUNCHES NEW ELITE ATHLETIC PROGRAM**

The Athletic Department has assembled a group of dedicated professionals to assist our Head Coaches and Teachers with...
monitoring, tracking, and supporting our student-athletes. Our mission, vision, and purpose is consistent with preparing students to be #TomorrowReady! Many of our student-athletes have already developed relationships with the members of this academic support team.

Purpose of the ELITE Athletic Program:

- Promote the value of education-based athletics
- Cultivate relationships across the district and within the community
- Support all aspects of student-athlete development
- Participate as an active member of the IHSAA, MCAA, and Mid-State Conference

In this time of uncertainty, the academic support team is prepared to work with teachers to continue support for student-athletes. More information related to the Elite Athletic Program will be coming as we return to school. For now, if you have student-athletes that need additional assistance, please feel free to use our team as a resource.

Elite Academic Support Team:

- CCR - Aimee Kroll
- 11th Coordinator - Pam Schroeder
- 10th Coordinator - Kelly Tate
- 9th Coordinator - Lauren Wilber
- 8th Coordinator - Bre Fife
- 7th Coordinator - Nikki Naylor

DCHS SHOW CHOIR SEASON FINISHES ON A HIGH NOTE

The Goldenaires had an excellent season before it was cut short. They took Grand Champions at the Franklin Community Showfest in February, including winning Best Choreography and Best Vocals. They then went on to win Grand Champions in the small school Division at the Edgewood Contest of Champions and were looking forward to finishing their season at Shelbyville before the coronavirus ended the season. Their show, "Break Free and Fly Away," was a story of overcoming obstacles, recognizing the beauty within, and embracing opportunities.
The *Expressions* also had an excellent season! They premiered their show “A New World,” at the Edgewood Showfest, and then went on to win Grand Champions in the festival division at the North Central MIC Competition. They were also looking forward to ending their season with a bang at Shelbyville. Their show told a story about the inspiration that can come from finding something new and the power that can come from being who you are meant to be.

**STUDENT MEAL PACKS ~ APRIL 27TH ~ MAY 18TH ~ MONDAYS ONLY**
DTEF FUNDRAISER

The Decatur Township Educational Foundation is excited to introduce an easy spring fundraising campaign! We've partnered with Haulstr, a local company that delivers mulch straight to your home! Click here for more information and to place your order.
May 2020

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**RECENT SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS**

**Blue Review**

Blue Review - Decatur Elementary Learning Center Blue Academy by Chris Gearlds | This newsletter was created with Smore, an online tool for creating beautiful newsletters for educators, nonprofits, businesses and more

**Blue Bugle**

Blue Bugle - Parent Networking for our Blue Academy Family by Chris Gearlds | This newsletter was created with Smore, an online tool for creating beautiful newsletters for educators, nonprofits, businesses and more

**Golden Gazette**

Golden Gazette - Jana Anderson, Principal by Beth Zorman | This newsletter was created with Smore, an online tool for creating beautiful newsletters for educators, nonprofits, businesses and more
The Liberty Link

The Liberty Link - February 21, 2020 by Susan Bryant | This newsletter was created with Smore, an online tool for creating beautiful newsletters for educators, nonprofits, businesses and more

Soaring Eagle News

Soaring Eagle News - Stephen Decatur Elementary January 31, 2020 by Jennifer Pearson | This newsletter was created with Smore, an online tool for creating beautiful newsletters for educators, nonprofits, businesses and more

Views at Valley

Views at Valley - February 2020 by Rebecca Johnson | This newsletter was created with Smore, an online tool for creating beautiful newsletters for educators, nonprofits, businesses and more

The Tiger Times

The Tiger Times - April 24, 2020 by Bridgett Enright | This newsletter was created with Smore, an online tool for creating beautiful newsletters for educators, nonprofits, businesses and more

Decatur Middle School

Decatur Middle School - Hawk Highlights by Adam Allen | This newsletter was created with Smore, an online tool for creating beautiful newsletters for educators, nonprofits, businesses and more

TRAILBLAZER TIMES

TRAILBLAZER TIMES - Monthly News From Around The School by Brent Dikeman | This newsletter was created with Smore, an online tool for creating beautiful newsletters for educators, nonprofits, businesses and more
IMPORTANT LINKS

Counselor Connection - January 2020 by Sarah Wilson | This newsletter was created with Smore, an online tool for creating beautiful newsletters for educators, nonprofits, businesses and more

The Parent Connections - March 2020 by Bev O'Toole | This newsletter was created with Smore, an online tool for creating beautiful newsletters for educators, nonprofits, businesses and more

District Master Calendar | April 2...

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Volunteer at MSD of Decatur To...

CANVAS

Contact your students school for log-in and pairing code information.

DIGITAL BACKPACK

Inclement Weather Information

Volunteer at MSD of Decatur To...