

## Gator Bites

# Decatur High School

2800 SW 320th, Federal Way, WA 98023

[www.fwps.org/decatur](http://www.fwps.org/decatur) T: (253) 945-5200

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Decatur Families,

**We are currently working to ensure that every student scholar will be empowered and prepared to develop personal responsibility in order to be positive, productive members of society. An additional focus will be, every student scholar will successfully navigate the critical transactions in their schooling, and will graduate from high school ready for college, career, and post-secondary experiences.**

"Attendance has been proven to be one of the most powerful predictors of academic achievement and can have a dramatic impact on key milestones, including third grade reading, 9th grade achievement, high school graduation, and postsecondary persistence. Chronic absenteeism is missing ten percent of school, regardless of the reason. A focus on chronic absenteeism examines the link between loss of class time and academic achievement. An awareness of chronic absenteeism and its potential impact will empower scholars, families, and communities to make informed decisions regarding missing school." (*Puget Sound Educational Service District, 2016*)

As we embark on this semester, I encourage you to continue to stay involved in monitoring and encouraging your student's learning. We expect the student to be the expert on their current level of performance, through tracking their own grade, reflecting on their own work, and through goal setting.

Be sure to check grades online (ParentVue) to see your student's current attendance and level of performance and see what standards your student has and still needs to meet. If you have questions or concerns about your student's grade, please talk to your student, and then contact your student's teacher.

Thank you for all your support of our students and our school. I love being the principal here and working with our students, who, in my opinion, are the best! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email at [chspence@fwps.org](mailto:chspence@fwps.org) or by phone at 253-945-5212.

Sincerely,

Christina Spencer  
Proud Principal, Decatur High School



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

- 16th – Band Service Area Concert at 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm in the Gym
- 25th – Big Band Showcase at 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm in the PA, (doors open @ 6:30 pm)

### MARCH

- 2nd – Band Spring Concert at 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm in the PA
- 16th – Cabaret (show only) at 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm. \$10.00 tickets at the door.
- 17th – Cabaret (with dinner) doors open at 5:00 pm, dinner and silent auction at 6:00 pm, show starts at 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm. Limited tickets at the door - \$20.00.

### MAY

- 4th – 6th – Spring Musical "The Wedding Singer" at 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm
- 11th – 13th – Spring Musical "The Wedding Singer" at 7:00 – 10:00 pm
- 25th – Band Finale Concert at 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm in the PA

### JUNE

- 1st – Spring Concert Choir & Orchestra at 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm
- 10th – Senior Prom at 8:00 pm – 11:00 pm at the Tacoma Art Museum
- 17th – Graduation at 7:00 pm at the Tacoma Dome



## SCHOOL CALENDAR

- **February** – 1st: Early Release  
15th: Early Release  
20th: No School / President's Day / Mid-Winter Break  
21st: No School / Mid-Winter Break
- **March** – 1st: Early Release  
8th – 9th: No School / Student-Led Conferences  
10th: No School / Teacher In-Service Day  
22nd: Early Release
- **April** – 3rd – 7th: No School / Spring Break  
12th: Early Release  
26th: Early Release
- **May** – 17th: Early Release  
29th: No School / Memorial Day  
30th: Snow makeup day. We will have classes
- **June** – 7th: Early Release  
22nd: Last Day of School, Early Dismissal

## UPCOMING STUDENT LED CONFERENCE INFORMATION

### Wednesday, March 8, 2017

Conferences 7:00 am – 12:00 pm

Teacher Lunch and Planning 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Conferences 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm

### Thursday, March 9, 2017

Conferences 7:00 am – 11:00 am

We are looking forward to sharing your student's successes!

## GOALS



Every student scholar will be empowered and prepared to develop personal responsibility in order to be positive, productive members of society.



Every student scholar will successfully navigate the critical transactions in their schooling, and will graduate from high school ready for college, career, and post-secondary experiences.