

Voice of Decatur Community High School

# Decatur Dictator

By the DCHS Dictator Staff



STUDENTS AT DECATUR COMMUNITY HIGH still use the lockers their grandparents used. This is an example of how a large percentage of the students “maintain” their lockers. — Dictator staff photo

## Lockers really are needed nuisances

By MEGAN HUNTLEY

All students have one. Some are dirty, some are clean. Some are crowded, and some are sparse. Some are a pain and some are easy. Figure it out yet? Yes, I’m talking about lockers!

Every year, each student is issued a locker and a combination, to keep their books and belongings in. Ask any seventh grader in August, and he/she will tell you that one of their greatest fears of junior high is being unable to open their lockers.

According to a recent survey conducted on our school web site, 63 percent of students say they do not have enough room in their lockers. Currently, junior high lockers downstairs and the freshman and sophomore lockers upstairs are approximately 58 inches tall, 14 inches deep and 12 inches wide. The seniors’ and juniors’ lockers are a bit bigger – 15 inches width and 15 inches deep. These few inches make all the difference in the world.

These lockers are old and the same lockers our parents and grandparents used. Sometimes they are a nuisance to the students. Thirty percent of students say they have trouble opening their locker.

Lockers are often a reflection of a student’s personality, so some deco-

rate the inside and sometimes the outside of their locker. Students are not allowed to use tape on the inside of their lockers, due to the mess left behind, but students have overcome this by using magnets. Fifty-eight percent of students decorate the inside of their lockers, most of them with pictures.

Seventy percent of students think that their locker is acceptably clean. Thirteen percent of this group would even go so far as to say that it is spic and span. Then you have 17 percent who say their locker is a DISASTER, and the remaining 13 percent say they would be embarrassed if their mother saw the inside of their locker.

Throughout the day, students often need a little boost to keep them going. The Decatur Community High School handbook says that students may keep snacks in their lockers, but not drinks, because of the possibility of spilling. Forty-eight percent of students keep snacks in their locker of various sorts, while 23 percent admit to keeping drinks stored in their locker.

Lockers are a part of every high school student’s school day. They are more than just a place to store books and a coat.

## Decorations adorn doors

Advisory groups were busy last week decorating classroom doors for the annual door-decorating contest. This year’s theme was Christmas carols.

Mrs. Barth’s advisory group won the contest with “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.” Her group includes Samir Armendariz, Jakobi Blau, Rex Diederich, Justin Gee, Justice Harris, Jerod Smith and Dakota Tate. Their door has a huge Rudolph, complete with lighted red nose.

There are 25 advisory groups at the high school. Each group was given the task to decorate a door, using the theme of Christmas carols, without spending more than \$10. Most groups spent very little money, instead using supplies they found at school or brought from home.

The doors were judged on creativity, neatness, and originality. To be judged, they also had to follow the theme.

Mrs. Breth’s group came in second with “Let it Snow.” The last time advisory groups decorated doors, which was two years ago, her group also won. Mrs. Breth’s advisory group includes Kiah Blau, Tyler Bruggeman, Adrian Chambers, Emma Green, Haley Schiessler, Asia Tegels and Kramer Wrinkles. This door has snowflakes affixed to the top of the doorway with fishing line.

Coming in third place was Mrs. Bricker’s group with their “O Holy Night” door. They decorated one of the auditorium doors with a giant knight with holes in him. Mrs. Bricker’s group includes Regent Erickson, Caleb Koerperich, Emily Larson, Daniel Lerew, Dannay Rhein, Cheyanne Soderlund and Ashley Treese.

Honorable mention awards go to the office door, decorated by



school secretaries Judy Marietta and Melissa Dreher. Their door has a huge Grinch with the saying “You’re a Mean One, Mr. Jimenez.” “Mr. Jimenez” is marked out and replaced with “Mr. Grinch.”

Mrs. Dejmal’s advisory group was also recognized with an honorable mention award. Their door, “I saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus” depicts a mom kissing Santa with pictures of the advisory group peeking around the corner. Mrs. Dejmal’s team is Mason Ahlberg, Chris Anderson, Ganon Henningson, Taylor Macfee and Ara Marinese- Singleton.

Finally, Mr. Howland’s door has no decorations – only a sign that says, “The Grinch Stole Our Christmas Decorations, Sorry!” and a mug shot of the Grinch.

Several other doors are very creative including Mrs. Woolsey’s door, “A Christmas Carol.” On her art room door is a picture of Spanish teacher Carol Brown with a Santa hat. Mr. Johnson’s group decided to “Deck the Halls.” They carried their theme into the hallway.

Next time you are at the high school, check out the festive doors.

## School Menus

**Dec. 19 - Dec. 23 OBERLIN SCHOOLS**  
**Monday:** Breakfast: waffles, ham pattie. Lunch: corn dog, macaroni and cheese.  
**Tuesday:** Breakfast: pancake wrap. Lunch: turkey, mashed potatoes, bread stuffing, cheese cake.  
**Wednesday:** Breakfast: ham

combo, mini loaf. Lunch: chicken wrap, tater tots.  
**Thursday:** Breakfast: biscuits and gravy. Lunch: pizza, peas.  
**Friday:** No School.  
 Fruit served with all breakfasts, choice bar with all lunches, milk with with all meals.

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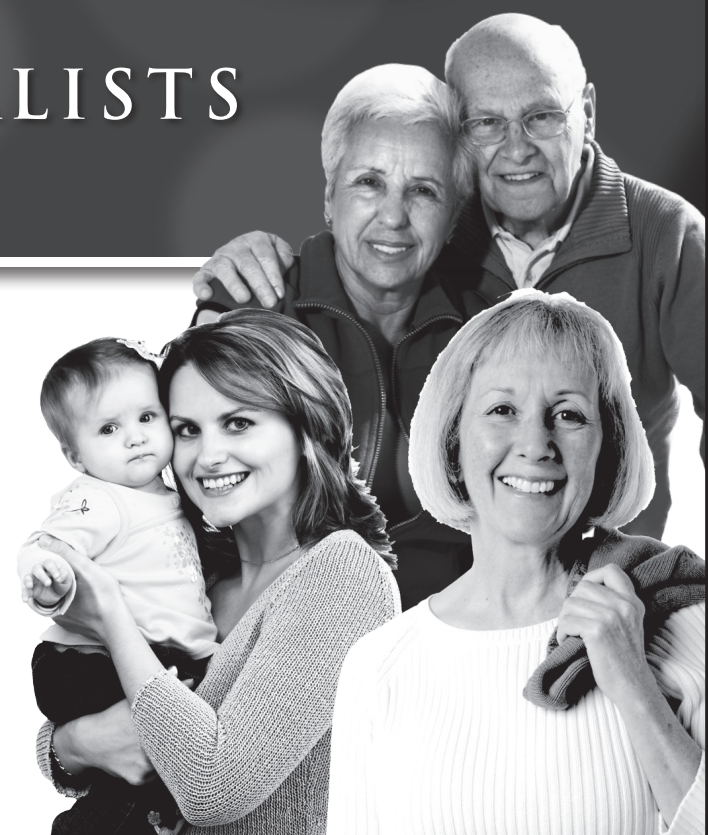
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