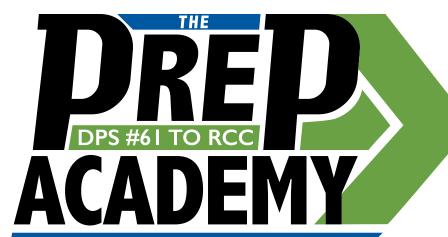
The Prep Academy is an exciting opportunity offered *only* to Decatur Public School students and families.

For more information or to apply please contact:

## Ashley Grayned

Executive Director of Innovative Programs and Strategic Planning (217) 362-3012 AGrayned@dps61.org



YOUR DIPLOMA AND DEGREE IN 4 YEARS



Participating in The Prep Academy Program is a proactive way to ensure students are on a clear path towards obtaining a college degree.

The Prep Academy will help students:

- get on the right track towards graduating high school.
- obtain a head start towards their college education.

 gain a competitive edge when it's time to apply for their first job.

This program is a safe way for students to test their abilities, gain confidence, set high expectations, and obtain major achievements!

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM
THE PREP ACADEMY PROGRAM

REis in our own hands."

Accessibility for a wide range of students.

REAL WORLD APPLICATIONS
to help develop a strong work
ethic, form time management skills,
improve writing skills, advance critical
thinking, and study at a more mature rate
than their peers.

Cost Savings in earning college credits while in high school (less student loan debt). Less stress on parents and students having to worry about paying for college.

**PERSONAL COACHING** gives additional support to ensure high school students thrive in their classes. This may include tutoring, counseling and guidance from college staff.

**COLLEGE PREPAREDNESS** provides exposure to college coursework allowing the advantage of smoother transitions between high school and college. A college-level mentality is developed sooner than their peers, which can help them handle heavy workloads and balance a social life.

**EARLY CAREER EXPOSURE** with an abundance of career and technical programs on Richland's campus.

INCREASED FUTURE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES knowing that students that attend any form of post-secondary studies increase their potential to earn more during their lifetime than those that do not attend.

THE PREP ACADEMY IS AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY OFFERED ONLY TO DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AND FAMILIES.

Acceptance into The Prep Academy will require:

- **☑** Completed application
- **☑** All requested documents
- Review of current 8th graders winter eReading scores
- 7th grade ELA IAR scores to ensure students accepted are able to handle the college course rigor.