

We want your opinions on the future of Decatur!

The Decatur community and school system are working together to figure out how we can improve our schools and better meet our children's needs. To identify what changes should be made to our schools, it is important to determine how educational needs have changed, which in turn requires seeing how the workplace, family, and community have changed. Six community meetings have been held to try to figure this out, and the results are shown below. Now we need to know what **you** think about these issues. Please take a few minutes to say if you agree or disagree with their answers.

Question 1: Changes in the Past 30 Years

What are the major ways that society in general and the Decatur community in particular have changed in the past 30 years? Identify changes that have occurred, regardless of whether they are good or bad.

Workplace

Agree Disagree

- More service jobs, less industrial jobs, less farming
- Fewer family businesses
- More team-oriented work
- More technology
- More education needed

Comments or additions:

Agree Disagree

- More women in workplace and women in higher positions
- Longer commutes to workplace
- More job stress
- Less job security
- Greater workload

Family

Agree Disagree

- More single-parent families
- More two parents working
- More blended families
- More home-alone children (latch key children)
- Less family time

Comments or additions:

Agree Disagree

- Less cohesive families
- Smaller families
- More technologies at home
- Parents want to be friends instead of parents (less discipline)

Community (Social and Cultural)

Agree Disagree

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More crimes, violence, drugs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Less social/community interaction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Less farmland, more housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Less religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Fewer positive role models |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Less volunteering |

Comments or additions:

Agree Disagree

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More multi cultural |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More technology (more two-way communication media) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More commercial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More fast food |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More indoor entertainment |

(Please turn page over)

Question 2: Changes You Want in the Next 10 Years

What are the major ways that society in general and the Decatur community in particular should change in the next 10 years? Think about how you would like Decatur and the broader society to change.

Workplace

Agree Disagree

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More technology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More teaming |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More better-paying jobs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More family friendly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More flexible work schedules |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More affection and positive incentives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Fewer hours in workplace |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More diversity |

Comments or additions:

Agree Disagree

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More bilingualism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More pride and accountability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More opportunity to work at home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More respect received |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More on-site daycare |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More support for educational opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Better security from violence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More counseling services |

Family

Agree Disagree

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Increase family time and unity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More communication, guidance and support for children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More commitment and communication between parents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More emphasis on setting goals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Fewer divorces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Fewer latchkey children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Less materialism |

Comments or additions:

Agree Disagree

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Better parenting skills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More parent involvement in schools and being consistent with schools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More values and discipline |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More teaching life skills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More being role models |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More religion in family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | More home school compensation |

Community (Social and Cultural)

Agree Disagree

Agree Disagree

- More social interactions within the community
- More teaming/collaboration
- Increase in family values
- Less violence/sex on media
- Less materialistic society
- More accountability/responsibility

- More respect for diversity and other cultures
- More spiritual support
- More volunteers
- Higher security and less crime
- More scholarships for school
- More availability of facilities and technology

Comments or additions:

Question 3: Skills and Qualities our Children Will Need

What are the skills and qualities our students will need to be successful, given the actual and desired changes in our community and society? How well are we meeting these needs? Please score on a scale of 0-10, where 10 is best.

Skills

Agree Disagree

Score Agree Disagree

Score

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> High reading & writing abilities		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Computer skills	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Math skills		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Multilingual skills	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Problem solving skills		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Communication skills	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational skills		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Teaming / group-process skills	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Goal-setting skills		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Conflict resolution skills	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Project/time management skills		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Be able to market themselves	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-tasking skills		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Trade/vocational skills	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Self-education/self-improvement skills		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Financial acumen	

Comments or additions:

Personal Qualities

Agree Disagree

Score Agree Disagree

Score

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Honesty, integrity		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Admit when they are wrong	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Good work ethic		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Take constructive criticism	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Independence		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Desire to get along with others	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Kindness, thoughtfulness		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Respect differences in others	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Flexibility		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Respect for authority	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Responsibility / accountability		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Respect moms who stay at home	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Confidence, self-esteem		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Desire to learn	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Creativity		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Service oriented	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Ambition/passion for something		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Willing to take risks	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Patience		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Willing to ask questions	

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Balance life, family, faith, work			
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Comments or additions:

Please check as many of the following as apply to you:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decatur Student | <input type="checkbox"/> Decatur parent/grandparent | <input type="checkbox"/> Other community member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decatur Teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> Decatur Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> Other school staff |