PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT is ART

SUMMER 2016
Student Summer Programs

DeSoto ISD bridge and summer programs are rigorous academic programs for students which provide an opportunity for students to jump start their academic career. Scholars are presented with a stimulating curriculum designed to spark their curiosity, engage their intellect, and uncover their passions, while simultaneously advancing their academic writing, and critical reading.

COLLEGIATE MAGNET BRIDGE
DESO TO EAST MEDICAL MAGNET BRIDGE
DESO TO WEST INTERNATIONAL MALE LEADERSHIP BRIDGE
GEAR UP TEX PREP
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE ORIENTATION
MCCOWAN FINE ARTS MAGNET BRIDGE
N.I. A. KIDS
STEM CAMP
YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Instructional Personnel Opportunities

Professional Development is the continuous process of acquiring new knowledge and skills that relate to education, including updates on curriculum and exploring bold new strategies. It plays a key role in maintaining trained, informed, and motivated educators, regardless of job classification.

ADMINISTRATORS RETREAT CURRICULUM RETREAT
RIGOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNSELORS INSTITUTE
PEDAGOGY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TEKS RESOURCE CONFERENCE
PRINCIPALS RETREAT MASTER INSTITUTE OF TEACHERS (M.I.T.)
ADMINISTRATORS SUMMIT NEW TEACHER ORIENTATION
INSTRUCTIONAL COordinators INSTITUTE BACK TO SCHOOL STAFF DEVELOPMENT
ASPIRING LEADERSHIP
PROGRAM FOCUSED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (ISTEAM, MALE LEADERSHIP & BLENDED LEARNING)
Student Schedule of Events

April

Male Leadership Symposium (pg 9)

iSTEAM Community Showcase (pg 9)

May

Math Olympiad (pg 10)

June

DeSoto Collegiate Magnet Program Bridge (pg 12)

DeSoto Early College High School Bridge (pg 11)

DeSoto East Medical Magnet Bridge (pg 13)

DeSoto West International Male Leadership Bridge (pg 13)

GEAR Up Cedar Valley Tex Prep (pg 15)

GEAR Up UNT Dallas Tex Prep (pg 15)

Graduation

McCowan Fine Arts Academy Magnet Bridge (pg 14)

Stem Camp (pg 12)

Young Scholars Summer Program (pg 16)

July

IB Diploma Program Student Orientation (pg 17)
Instructional Personnel Schedule of Events

**May**

Curriculum Retreat (pg 10)

**June**

Administrators Retreat (pg 11)
Graduation
Master Institute for Teachers (M.I.T.) (pg 20)
Program Focused Professional Development (iSTEAM and Male Leadership) (pg 14)
TEKS Resource Conference

**July**

Aspiring Leadership Academy (pg 18)
Master Institute for Teachers (M.I.T.) (pg 20)
Pedagogy Professional Development (pg 16)
Principal’s Retreat

**August**

Administrators Summit
Back-to-School Staff Development / Teacher Prep Days
Counselors Institute (pg 19)
Convocation
Instructional Coordinators Institute (pg 19)
New Teacher Orientation
Program Focused Professional Development (Blended Learning) (pg 18)
Rigor Professional Development featuring Robyn Jackson (pg 17)
### Summer 2016 Happenings

#### April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Audience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>iSTEAM Community Showcase</td>
<td>6:30PM – 8:00PM</td>
<td>To Be Determined</td>
<td>Current iSTEAM students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Male Leadership Symposium</td>
<td>8:30AM – 3:30PM</td>
<td>DeSoto High School</td>
<td>6th-12th grade male students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### May

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Audience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Math Olympiad</td>
<td>8:00AM-1:00PM</td>
<td>McCowan Middle School</td>
<td>6th-8th grade students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-27</td>
<td>Curriculum Retreat</td>
<td>8:00AM – 5:00PM</td>
<td>DeSoto Town Center</td>
<td>Curriculum Department</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## June

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Audience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Graduation</td>
<td>To Be Determined</td>
<td>Ben Dial Stadium</td>
<td>Class of 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>Administrators Retreat</td>
<td>8:00AM-5:00PM</td>
<td>Belt Line Conference Center</td>
<td>DeSoto ISD Leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-23</td>
<td>DeSoto Early College High School Bridge</td>
<td>8:00AM - 12:00PM</td>
<td>DeSoto High School</td>
<td>Class of 2020 DECHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-23</td>
<td>Collegiate Magnet Bridge</td>
<td>8:00AM - 12:00PM</td>
<td>DeSoto High School</td>
<td>Class of 2020 CMP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-30</td>
<td>STEM Camp</td>
<td>8:00AM-12:00PM</td>
<td>DeSoto High School</td>
<td>Selective 7th-10th graders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-16</td>
<td>DeSoto West International Male Leadership Bride</td>
<td>8:00AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>West Middle School</td>
<td>Class of 2021 Male Leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-16</td>
<td>DeSoto East Medical Magnet Bridge</td>
<td>8:00AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>East Middle School</td>
<td>Class of 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-16</td>
<td>McCowan Fine Arts Academy Bridge</td>
<td>8:00AM-11:45AM</td>
<td>McCowan Middle School</td>
<td>Class of 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-30</td>
<td>Master’s Institute for Teaching (M.I.T.)</td>
<td>8:00AM-4:00PM</td>
<td>West Middle School Frank Moates</td>
<td>Class of 2020 Selected Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-24</td>
<td>Program Focused Professional Development (iSTEAM &amp; Male Leadership)</td>
<td>8:00AM-4:00PM</td>
<td>Middle Schools</td>
<td>iSTEAM &amp; Male Leadership Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-21</td>
<td>GEAR Up: UNT Dallas Tex Prep</td>
<td>8:00AM – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>UNT Dallas</td>
<td>Accepted Class of 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-21</td>
<td>GEAR Up: Cedar Valley Tex Prep</td>
<td>8:00AM – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Cedar Valley College</td>
<td>Accepted Class of 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13– 24</td>
<td>Young Scholar’s Summer Program</td>
<td>8:00AM–12:00PM</td>
<td>DeSoto High School</td>
<td>Selected Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13– July 20</td>
<td>N.I.A Kids</td>
<td>7:30AM-4:30PM</td>
<td>N.I.A. Kids Center for Performing Arts</td>
<td>Bealles Shopping Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-16</td>
<td>TEKS Resource System Conference</td>
<td>8:00AM–5:00PM</td>
<td>San Antonio Convention Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### July

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Audience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-21</td>
<td>Mater’s Institute for Teachers (M.I.T.)</td>
<td>8:00AM – 4:00PM</td>
<td>To Be Determined</td>
<td>Selected Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Aspiring Leadership Academy</td>
<td>8:00AM – 4:00 PM</td>
<td>Belt Line Center</td>
<td>Interested in Leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Pedagogy Professional Development focusing on Rigor, Engagement, Reading, Gifted/ Talent Instruction</td>
<td>8:00AM – 4:00 PM</td>
<td>DeSoto High School</td>
<td>ALL District Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-28</td>
<td>Principal’s Retreat</td>
<td>8:00AM – 4:00 PM</td>
<td>DeSoto High School</td>
<td>Principal’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-27</td>
<td>IB Diploma Program Student Orientation</td>
<td>8:00AM – 3:00 PM</td>
<td>DeSoto High School</td>
<td>Students in the 2016 IB Diploma Program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## August

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Audience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Rigor Professional Development</td>
<td>8:00AM-5:00PM</td>
<td>DeSoto High School</td>
<td>Gear Up Cohort Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Program Focused Professional Development (Blended Learning)</td>
<td>8:00AM-4:00PM</td>
<td>Frank Moates</td>
<td>Blended Learning Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Administrator’s Summit</td>
<td>8:00AM-5:00PM</td>
<td>DeSoto High School</td>
<td>Leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Counselors Institute</td>
<td>8:00AM-4:00PM</td>
<td>ISC Resource Room</td>
<td>Counselors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Instructional Coordinators Institute</td>
<td>8:00AM-4:00PM</td>
<td>ISC Administrators Conference Room</td>
<td>Instructional Coordinators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>New Teacher Orientation</td>
<td>8:00AM-5:00PM</td>
<td>DeSoto High School</td>
<td>New Instructional Personnel to DISD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-19</td>
<td>Back to School Staff Development</td>
<td>8:00AM-4:00PM</td>
<td>ALL Campuses</td>
<td>All Instructional Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Convocation</td>
<td>8:00AM-12:00PM</td>
<td>DeSoto High School</td>
<td>ALL DeSoto ISD Employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>First Day of School</td>
<td></td>
<td>ALL Campuses</td>
<td>DeSoto ISD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
iSTEAM Community Showcase

• APRIL 12 • 6:30PM-8:00PM •
BELTLINE CONFERENCE CENTER
AUDIENCE: CLASS OF 2020

The iSTEAM3D Community Showcase will feature projects from students in the iSTEAM academies from all three middle school magnet programs in DeSoto Independent School District. Student work will focus on creativity, innovation, and design. Project Based Learning (PBL), is the foundation for iSTEAM and students will learn what PBL is and how it will be utilized in the upcoming school year. The iSTEAM3D academies prepare students for engaging program of study, each of which provides a strong foundation in the knowledge and skills necessary for success in the 21st Century.

Male Leadership Symposium

• APRIL 16 • 8:30AM-3:30PM •
DESO TO HIGH SCHOOL
AUDIENCE: MALES IN GRADES 6-12

The DeSoto Male Leadership Symposium will provide relevant experiences for minority males which will ensure success academically, professionally and socially through development in the following areas: Relationships, Leadership, Code Switching, Alcohol and Drugs and Careers. Attendees will attend workshop sessions taught by male community leaders. Keynote speakers for the day are actor Terrence J and actor/rapper Romeo. Our goal is to increase, encourage and support our young men as they pursue their dreams through attaining a degree from college or a trade school, contributing to society and learning how to go through life earning respect by respecting themselves first.

“Excellence is do a common thing in an uncommon way.” -Booker T. Washington
Math Olympiad

• MAY 21 • 8:00AM-1:00PM •

LOCATION: MCCOWAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

AUDIENCE: 6TH-8TH GRADE STUDENTS

The main theme of Math Olympiad is to have fun, learn lots of math and to prepare students for future endeavors in mathematics. Math Olympiad has three goals for participants. The first goal is to develop enthusiasm for problem solving and mathematics. Second, students will deepen their understanding of mathematical concepts and strengthen ability to use these concepts. Lastly, Math Olympiad builds a strong foundation for assessments and future mathematics studies. Math Olympiad is a very rigorous and challenging contest; therefore team-mates are advised to practice in order to increase their chances of success.

Curriculum Retreat

• MAY 25-27 • 9:00AM-4:00PM •

LOCATION: DESEOTO TOWN CENTER

AUDIENCE: CURRICULUM DEPARTMENT

DeSoto ISD’s curriculum department works hard during the school year providing support to all of the district’s campuses through modeling, offering different teaching strategies, support and keeping up to date with the latest developments in curriculum. Curriculum team members will appraise and evaluate the previous year’s curriculum and generate new assessments for the 2016-2017 school year. Additionally, the curriculum team will review the various technology programs the district uses to enhance the current curriculum.
DeSoto Early College Summer Bridge

• JUNE 8-23* • 8:00AM-12:00PM •

LOCATION: DESOTO HIGH SCHOOL

AUDIENCE: CLASS OF 2020 EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

DeSoto Early College High School Summer Bridge is to afford students the opportunity to bond and form alliances with one another that will assist them throughout the DECHS program over the next four years. Students will gain skills and information which are essential to their success in the Early College at Cedar Valley College. Coursework is given during the program to provide assistance for students with the Texas Success Initiative (TSi) exam. College professors will also cover their expectations for students. Summer Bridge is MANDATORY for students in Class of 2020 Early College High School Students.

*No Classes on Fridays
DeSoto ISD Collegiate Magnet Bridge

• JUNE 8-23* • 8:00AM-12:00PM •

LOCATION: DESOTO HIGH SCHOOL

AUDIENCE: CLASS OF 2020 COLLEGIATE MAGNET STUDENTS

Desoto Collegiate Magnet Summer Bridge provides incoming freshmen with tools and resources to jumpstart their first year in CMP. The Summer Bridge provides a fully funded academic experience that prepares students to get a head start on life as a CMP Student. Summer Bridge will focus on college readiness and Texas Success Initiative (TSi) preparation. Additionally, students will participate in team building exercises which will strengthen their leadership skills. Summer Bridge is MANDATORY for ALL Class of 2020 CMP students.

*No Classes on Fridays

STEM Camp

• JUNE 8-30* • 8:00AM-5:00PM •

LOCATION: DESOTO HIGH SCHOOL

AUDIENCE: SELECTED 7TH -10TH GRADERS

According to CNN Money, jobs in the software architecture industry are expected to grow 34% over the next 10 years and this program will help prepare students for those jobs. The University of Texas at Dallas and DeSoto ISD are partnering up to bring a STEM summer camp to selected incoming 7th -10th grade DeSoto ISD students. The STEM summer camp will focus on students with talent in mathematics and science and provide access to high-quality mathematical and science resources and instruction. A major emphasis of the camps are to create a community of peers who share a growing passion for math, science and engineering.

*No Classes on Fridays
DeSoto East Medical Magnet Summer Bridge

• JUNE 8-16* • 8:00AM-11:45AM •

LOCATION: DESOTO EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL

AUDIENCE: MEDICAL MAGNET STUDENTS

The Medical Magnet Summer Bridge program will provide Medical Magnet students a preview of the upcoming school year. Students will get a preview of the rigorous and relevant curriculum offered by the Medical School Magnet to create projects, research careers in the healthcare field, and preview some of the medical concepts which will be covered more in depth during the school year. Students in the program will work closely with faculty and community partners (including surgeons, professors, hospital personnel members) in a smaller setting to provide students an inclusive and independent academic exploration.

*No Classes on Fridays

DeSoto West Male International Leadership Bridge

• JUNE 8-16* • 8:00AM-12:00PM •

LOCATION: WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

AUDIENCE: MALE LEADERSHIP STUDENTS

Male Leadership Summer Bridge prepares the young men for initiation into the Male Leadership Magnet by allowing them to interact with their teachers and cohort members before the first day of school. Young men participate in team building exercises to help develop impactful leaders through the development of their intellectual, moral, physical, social and emotional skills for the global society of tomorrow. The program supports the young men to envision a future where they are physically and emotionally equipped, responsible and productive men.

*No Classes on Fridays
McCowan Fine Arts Summer Bridge

• JUNE 8-16* • 8:00AM-11:45AM •

LOCATION: MCCOWAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

AUDIENCE: 7TH AND 8TH GRADERS IN THE FINE ARTS MAGNET

The Fine Arts Bridge will focus on necessary fundamental skills for success in the Fine Arts Academy Program. Students will develop relationships with fellow fine arts academy students and staff, as well as participate in a daily concentrated class focusing on one of these disciplines in art, dance, theatre or music. Fine Arts Bridge provide a personal atmosphere in which students can have fun and learn about their gift cooperatively. The bridge program will culminate in performance opportunity showcase. The fundamental mission to motivate students to pursue their art with new enthusiasm.

*No Classes on Fridays

Program Focused Professional Development

• JUNE 8-24 • 8:00AM-4:00PM •

AUDIENCE: DISTRICT ISTEAM AND MALE LEADERSHIP TEACHERS

DeSoto ISD is at the forefront of educational advances with the Male Leadership and iSTEAM academies. Teachers involved in these programs will receive specialized training regarding the curriculum and how it will be utilized throughout the school year. Through hands on training focused on specific program needs and expectations, teachers will enhance the skills necessary for a successful 2016-2017 school year. Additionally, teachers will examine best practices and strategies that will be used to implement the curriculum.
GEAR Up UNT Dallas Tex Prep

• 8:00AM-2:00PM • JUNE 13 – JULY 21 •

AUDIENCE: ACCEPTED GEAR UP CLASS OF 2020

PREP is a mathematics-based, academic enrichment program. It emphasizes the development of abstract reasoning and problem solving skills. PREP helps students prepare for careers in the fields of mathematics, science, technology, and engineering. The program includes course work, team projects, class presentations, examinations, career awareness speakers, field trips, and special events. PREP is held over the course of four summers. Students can reapply each year. High school elective credit is awarded by school districts for the successful completion of PREP. This credit will affect a student’s grade point average. This Tex Prep is offered to incoming 9th graders.

GEAR Up Cedar Valley Tex Prep

• 8:00AM-2:00PM • JUNE 13 – JULY 21 •

AUDIENCE: ACCEPTED GEAR UP CLASS OF 2021

PREP is a mathematics-based, academic enrichment program. It emphasizes the development of abstract reasoning and problem solving skills. PREP helps students prepare for careers in the fields of mathematics, science, technology, and engineering. The program includes course work, team projects, class presentations, examinations, career awareness speakers, field trips, and special events. PREP is held over the course of four summers. Students can reapply each year. High school elective credit is awarded by school districts for the successful completion of PREP. This credit will affect a student’s grade point average. This Tex Prep is offered to incoming 8th graders.
DeSoto ISD’s instructional personnel answered surveys regarding what subject matters were most wanted and needed in the form of professional development. As a result of those surveys, and keeping the district’s mission in the forefront, the pedagogy professional development for this year will include target rigor, student engagement, reading strategies, content institutes and gifted and talented instruction. Sessions will target classroom teachers, administrators, counselors, paraprofessionals, and other support staff. In addition to the many great topics, we will also offer Breakfast with the Boss!!!
IB Diploma Program Student Orientation

• JULY 26-27 • 8:00AM-3:00PM •

LOCATION: DESOTO HIGH SCHOOL

AUDIENCE: IB STUDENTS

DeSoto will host the first International Baccalaureate Diploma Program Student Orientation in the summer of 2016. During orientation students will have an opportunity to meet the teachers and fellow cohort of students in the IB program, and participate in team building. Additionally during orientation students will learn about the curriculum and assessments of each course in the Diploma Program. Participation in the program is free, however students must be accepted into the IB program. Attendance for both days is mandatory for completing the program.

Rigor Professional Development

• AUGUST 1-3 • 8:00AM-4:00PM •

LOCATION: DESOTO HIGH SCHOOL

AUDIENCE: GEAR UP COHORT TEACHERS

Dr. Robyn Jackson, author of Never Work Harder Than Your Students, will lead this professional development on rigor. This professional development will focus on empowering lasting change that supports classes to come. Dr. Jackson will work with teachers to create a culture around continuous improvement, accountability and mastery for our GEAR UP students. Dr. Jackson is the author of nine books including Never Work Harder Than Your Students and the Mastering the Principles of Great Teaching series.
Aspiring Leadership Academy

• JULY 25 • 8:00AM-4:00PM •

LOCATION: BELT LINE CENTER

AUDIENCE: ASPIRING PRINCIPALS AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

The Aspiring Leadership Academy is focused on aspiring principals and aspiring assistant principals. The academy is designed to assist in identifying and strengthening foundational leadership skills. The Academy has two main objectives:

• Enhancing understanding of the fundamental leadership competencies

• Learning and investigating resources for continued improvement as a leader.

Program Focused Professional Development

• AUGUST 1-3 • 8:00AM-4:00PM •

LOCATION: FRANK MOATES ELEMENTARY

AUDIENCE: BLENDED LEARNING TEACHERS

DeSoto ISD is at the forefront of educational advances by incorporating blended learning into the classrooms. In this professional development teacher will learn how to combine classroom learning with online learning, in which students can, in part, control the time, pace, and place of their learning. Blended learning is teaching and learning infused with technology to better inform and direct the learning needs of each student and this training will focus on incorporating this strategy to ensure all students needs are met.
**Instructional Coordinators Institute**

• AUGUST 5 • 8:00AM-4:00PM •

LOCATION: ISC ADMINISTRATOR’S CONFERENCE ROOM

AUDIENCE: INSTRUCTIONAL COORDINATORS

DeSoto will host the first Instructional Coordinators Institute (ICs) in which ICs will cover the expectations and demands of the job. ICs will learn about the educational programs utilized in the district and how to effectively implement and monitor implementation on their campus. The Institute will cover procedures to ensure curriculum is followed successfully. Additionally, ICs will participate in team building and bonding activities to improve communication, boosting morale, motivation, ice breakers to help get to know each other better, learning effective strategies, and improving productivity.

**Counselors Institute**

• AUGUST 5 • 8:00AM-4:00PM •

LOCATION: ISC RESOURCE ROOM

AUDIENCE: COUNSELORS

Intended for school counselors across the education spectrum, the institute is an extraordinary opportunity to learn innovative and proven techniques for effective school counseling practices as well as explore new trends and issues related to student growth and development. The institute will support school counselors' efforts to help students focus on academic, career and social/emotional development so they achieve success in school and are prepared to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society. Counselors will participate in teambuilding to enable this of people to reach their goal, student success. The institute is hosted by DeSoto ISD Counseling Program.
DeSoto ISD will implement the Master Institute for Teachers in the summer of 2016 with its first cohort. The inaugural cohort will consist of core teachers from two elementary campuses, five core teachers from each middle school and 25 core teachers from the high school. During the institute teachers will work with coaches and focus on these professional development highlights:

- An innovative approach to professional development.
- Job imbedded personalized professional development.
- Real-time coaching and feedback.
- Focus on Research-based, effective practices.
Robyn R. Jackson, Ph.D.

The founder and president of Mindsteps, Robyn Jackson is an accomplished teacher, administrator, consultant, and speaker, and best-selling author. She is passionate about education and teachers – working to ensure all educators have access to the resources they need to become master teachers. This vision, coupled with her desire to change the way educators think about teaching, led to her creation of Mindsteps. Since founding Mindsteps in 2006 Robyn has impacted thousands of teachers, teaching in hundreds of schools nationwide.

Through her consulting, writing, speaking, and training, Robyn inspires educators to become master teachers, implement more rigorous instruction, support struggling students, and provide effective instructional leadership.

Robyn holds a Doctorate of Philosophy and a Masters of Science from the University of Maryland, as well as a Bachelor of Sciences from Oakwood University.
# DeSoto Independent School District 2016-2017 Calendar

## August 2016
- 8-9: New Teacher Orientation
- 10-19: All Staff Dev. / Teacher Prep Days
- 22: First Day of Instruction

## September 2016
- 5: Labor Day Holiday, All Closed

## October 2016
- 1: State Fair Day, All Closed
- 21: Staff Dev, All Closed

## November 2016
- 21-25: Thanksgiving Holiday

## December 2016
- 5-9: STAAR Testing
- 16: Early Release; Last Day Fall Semester
- 19-30: Winter Break

## January 2017
- 2: Winter Break
- 3: School Resumes; 1st Day Spring Semester
- 18: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

## February 2017
- 20: Staff Dev; Parent Conferences PM

## March 2017
- 13-17: Spring Break; STAAR Testing
- 28-30: STAAR Testing

## April 2017
- 14: Good Friday Holiday, All Closed

## May 2017
- 1-5, 8-11: STAAR Testing
- 29: Memorial Day Holiday

## June 2017
- 1: Last Day of School; Early Release
- 2: All Staff Dev. / Teacher Prep Day
- 19-23: STAAR Testing

## July 2017
- 4: Independence Day Holiday

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**Calendar Key:**
- ( ) Grading Period
- ( ) Semester
- ▲ New Teacher Orientation
- Holiday/School Closed
- Staff Development Day (No school)
- Early Release
- Teacher Preparation Day (No school)
- Parent Conf. Day
- STAAR Test (Details at desotoisd.org)

**Grading Periods**
- Fall Semester: Aug. 22 - Oct. 14; Oct. 17 - Dec. 16
- Spring Semester: Jan. 3 - March 10; March 20 - June 1

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[www.desotoisd.org](http://www.desotoisd.org)
DeSoto ISD School Board Members

Jerry Hall

Aubrey C. Hooper, Vice President

Sandre Moncriffe

Carl Sherman, Jr., President

Vandous Stripling

Karen Daniel, Secretary

Donald Gant
Schools

Amber Terrace Discovery and Design
Cockrell Hill Elementary
The Meadows Elementary
Frank D. Moates Elementary
Northside Elementary
Woodridge Elementary
Ruby Young Elementary
DeSoto East Middle School
Curtistene McCowan Middle School
DeSoto West Middle School
DeSoto High School
DeSoto AEP

The mission of DeSoto ISD is to prepare each student academically and socially to be a problem solver and productive citizen for a 21st century global society.