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Dear Parents & DECA Members:

Congratulations to all DECA members that qualified to attend the International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, California. Plans have been finalized and I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the details.

In addition to the various competitions, workshops, elections, exhibits, and meetings are planned for the estimated 12,000 students expected to attend this year's conference. There should also be time for everyone to enjoy some of the local attractions.

If anyone needs to get in touch with a member of the group simply call the hotel. The front desk will have each student's room number. The hotel telephone number is listed with the attached information. You may also call my cell phone.

Students should make extra efforts to **plan in advance** for classes that will be missed during the trip. Upon our return, students should be in classes the next day and work with individual teachers to insure that all missed work is completed. We are fortunate to have this opportunity, so be sure to "take care of business" prior to leaving for Anaheim.

The conference will be an enjoyable event and should also be a great educational opportunity. I'm sure the experience will be one that students will remember as a highlight of their high school days. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions. The school number is (740) 657-4169.

Sincerely,

Kit Lynch  
Olentangy DECA Advisor

**DECA INTERNATIONAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE UPDATE**  
**Monday, April 27, 2009 - Sunday, May 3, 2009**

Here are some reminders and additional information for DECA's International Career Development Conference. [www.deca.org](http://www.deca.org)

**1. Hotel.** We will be staying at:

<u>Mon, 4/27 &amp; Tues 4/28</u>	<u>Wed, 4/29, Thu 4/30, Fri 5/1, &amp; Sat 5/2</u>
Holiday Inn, Hermosa Beach 125 Pacific Coast Hwy Hermosa Beach, CA 90254 (310) 798-9898 <a href="http://www.hiehb.com">www.hiehb.com</a>	Anaheim Marriott 700 West Convention Way Anaheim, California 92802 USA (714)-750-8000 <a href="http://www.marriott.com">www.marriott.com</a>

**2. Flights - Southwest Airlines. MEET AT SOUTHWEST TICKET COUNTER – 7:00 AM**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Flight #</b>	<b>Depart</b>	<b>Arrive</b>
April 27	605	Columbus 8:50 AM	Chicago MDW 9:00 AM
April 27	268	Chicago MDW 11:10 AM	LAX 1:50 PM
May 3	606	LAX 12:15 PM	Chicago MDW 6:10 PM
May 3	748	Chicago MDW 7:35 PM	Columbus 9:40 PM

**3. Transportation during conference.** Our group will use a bus charter from Coach America for transportation between our hotels and the airport. The majority of DECA activities and competitions take place at the Anaheim Convention Center. Our hotel is located directly across the street from the Center. Free shuttles will also be provided to and from the hotel to all DECA events and activities.

**4. Curfew.** Curfew for students is 12:00 AM each night of this trip. All students are to remain in their own rooms after this time. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

**5. Rules.** I have the highest expectations of our students and simply do not expect any discipline problems. It is important, however, that all students realize that if they do violate rules they will be sent home immediately, and at their own expense.

My main concern on these trips is always student safety. We have an outstanding group of teens attending this year's conference. Help me make sure all of these students make good choices by reinforcing the following:

- *All school rules apply throughout the trip.*
- You should never be alone at any time during this conference
- You need to be in your assigned room by midnight
- Using drugs or alcohol- or being in a room with drugs or alcohol- is the worst decision you can make on this trip
- When not at a DECA Event, Mr. Lynch needs to know your exact location.

<b>Poor choices by individuals could also result in our <u>entire Chapter</u> being sent home.</b>
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**6. Spending Money.** Funds from the *Wigwam* will offset many of the expenses related to the convention. As a general guideline, \$25.00 - \$30.00 per day is usually enough to cover meals and snacks. The first two days of this trip (beach area & LA city tour) are being paid for students. No additional attractions are planned for students during the rest of the trip. Disneyland, however, is a fifteen minute walk or free shuttle ride from the hotel. Students who wish to attend the park (in small groups) will need extra money.

**7. Luggage.** Please only take only what you need and can **personally carry**. Southwest does not charge for the first two bags- two bags is plenty!

**8. Clothes.** A general mix of dress, casual, and beach clothes is suggested. Students in competitions should take clothes that will match the navy blue DECA blazer. Students will be dressed-up four times during the conference. *All students must wear professional attire to all workshops, national sessions, and award ceremonies (see the enclosed dress code).*

**9. Room Charges.** I try to arrange a block on all room charges. If this is not possible, students need to make arrangements with their roommates to handle any room charges. Long distance phone calls made directly from the hotel rooms are very expensive and should not be used. Students need to keep careful track of any room charges. **Any charges that are not accounted for will be charged equally to students in that room.**

**10. Room Etiquette.** Be neat and share the hotel amenities. Also realize there are often people in adjoining rooms that are not with the conference. Be respectful.

**11. Timeliness.** Be five minutes early to every meeting with me. Be at least twenty minutes early to every DECA event. Please read this again.

**12. Name Badges & Wristbands.** Your name badge AND wristband are your tickets to all meetings, general sessions, and special activities. They must be worn at all times during the conference. There will be a charge for replacements.

**13. Supervision.** Even with our most diligent efforts, it is simply not possible to supervise all students at all times, in all situations. For this reason any violation of trust will be handled in a serious manner. Make good choices, make good choices, make good choices.

**14. Costs.** Students are required to pay **\$500.00** toward the total expense of attending the conference and are responsible for providing money for all meals, snacks, and attractions. The cost per person for this trip is estimated at \$1,000.00, and is itemized as follows:

**Revenue:**

Wigwam contribution	\$500.00
Student contribution	<u>\$500.00</u>
Total revenue	\$1,000.00

**Expenses:**

Air transportation	\$400.00
Ground transportation	\$100.00
Registration & hotel	<u>\$500.00</u>
Total expenses	\$1,000.00

**Payment of the \$500 student share is due, on or before, Monday, April 13, 2009. Checks should be made out to Olentangy Schools/DECA.**

**15. Academics.** Students are expected to make preparations well in advance of this trip regarding assignments that will be missed in other classes. Teachers will have the list of students attending this conference, but it is the responsibility of students to make arrangements. **I can not stress enough how important it is for students to be back in class- on time- on Monday, May 4. Students who can not commit to this should not attend this conference.**

**16. Questions during the Conference** – Parents, you can call my cell phone at any hour: 614-578-6812.

**17. Final Note.** This is a great opportunity for students to learn, meet people from around the country, and have a great time. Our school will likely have the largest number of individuals competing at this conference in the entire nation. Our goal is for Olentangy to be the "class" group of the convention.

### **Olentangy DECA Member Honor Pledge**

1. I understand that attending this year's DECA ICDC is an earned privilege, a school trip, and not a right.
2. I understand I need to contact my academic teachers at least one week in advance of this trip regarding assignments I will miss.
3. I will be in class- on time- first period on Monday, May 4, 2009.
4. I will always be with another person from my Chapter during this conference.
5. I will be in my assigned room by midnight every night during this conference.
6. I will not use- or be in a room with- drugs or alcohol on this trip.
- 6.5 I realize the worst decision I could make would be to use – or be in a room with- drugs or alcohol on this trip.
7. When not in a DECA event I will let Mr. Lynch know my exact location.
8. I have an incredible future, and I will make good choices because I have far much more to lose than the typical high school student.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_