

# ACADEMIC DECATHLON FACT SHEET

## CATEGORY:

Academics, Cultural,  
Special Interests

## SPONSORS:

Leslye C. Jackson Gilchrist

## PRE-REQUISITES:

None

## DESCRIPTION:

Academic Decathlon is a competition oriented activity centered around the integrated study of a theme. Students study the literature, art, music, social studies, economics, and science around the theme. This year's theme is "In Sickness and in Health" and will include the science of cancer and the economics of health care as well as themes of mortality and physical and mental illness as represented in literature, art, and music. Students also work on math, and though not connected to the theme, the topic varies from year to year.

## MEETINGS:

This is a class--though it can be done independently.

**DUES:** \$100-125

## OTHER MONETARY REQUIREMENTS:

We fundraise for our travel, and we try to keep the family cost at or below \$300. This varies depending on whether airfare is involved.

**TRAVEL:** Required

1-2 times per year. The fall trip is optional. The other trip is Nationals in the spring. We do miss a few more days of class for online competitions.

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT:

Parents donate refreshments for breakfast and lunches on scrimmage days and help to fundraise. Parent volunteers are used for the state competition held at Magnet in March.

## REQUIREMENTS TO MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP:

Keep up with the reading!

## BENEFITS AND OTHER GOOD INFORMATION:

This activity helps with numerous AP courses, especially English, Art History, European or American History, and Science. In addition, it helps students gain excellent study skills, especially reading to learn. The speech and interview skills are also invaluable for college and career.