

Dan Bednarczyk is what some people may call a “DECA Dude”. He has been actively involved with the DECA organization since his first year of high school. He was that one lonely freshman sitting in the first DECA meeting of the year wondering what he was getting himself into. However, he has grown to love DECA and got more involved as the years went on. He has always been inclined towards business, which is why he initially decided to join the club. Although he has always performed well in academics and sports, the one thing he truly excels at is DECA. Through participation in seminars and conferences he has gained both leadership and teamwork skills that he has adapted to his everyday life.

Dan likes to work hard then play hard. He enjoys a wide variety of music from A Day to Remember to Taylor Swift, his one true idol. During the summer or Weekends he goes on road trips to concerts as far as Wisconsin. He tries to find a new thrill every day. Dan strongly supports his lifestyle of professional recklessness. He knows it is important to finish all your work but it is even more important to give yourself time to explore new things.

Like this year’s theme, Dan has always been motivated to “Aspire Higher”. That is why he decided to run as vice-president for his chapter as a junior. This experience encouraged him to become president of his chapter next year and that is the position he currently holds. For Dan, DECA has been the greatest aspect of his high school career. He has had experiences that he would not have been able to have if it were not for this organization. He makes a special effort to attend nearly every sports marketing seminar, leadership conference, and competitive event that DECA has to offer. Dan was inspired to run for the Illinois State Action Team after two of his chapter’s DECA members were also elected as state officers the previous year. He now carries on a tradition in his school that he hopes will carry on for many years.

Dan is a strong supporter of late nights. For him the night time is the right time whether it is hanging out with friends or when you really have to settle down and finish an assignment. Being nocturnal is just another accomplishment that Dan is proud of. All his ideas come at this time and although they are all mostly ridiculous

thoughts, there is always one that sparks something new. As you may already know, Dan is someone who you should definitely meet at DECA.

Becoming an Illinois State DECA officer is one of those accomplishments that require hard work and dedication. Luckily, he possesses both of those attributes and is ready to get the job done. Dan plans on continuing the increasing success of Illinois DECA while creating new functions for DECA members to socialize and develop their skills. Dan wants to do what he can to give back to the organization that has already given him so much. So when you spot Dan at a DECA event be sure to spark up a conversation, whether it is about the football season or the latest ridiculous dance in the hip hop world, because he is always open to meeting new people. Dan can't wait to have a great year as your new state officer!