

## Mission Statement

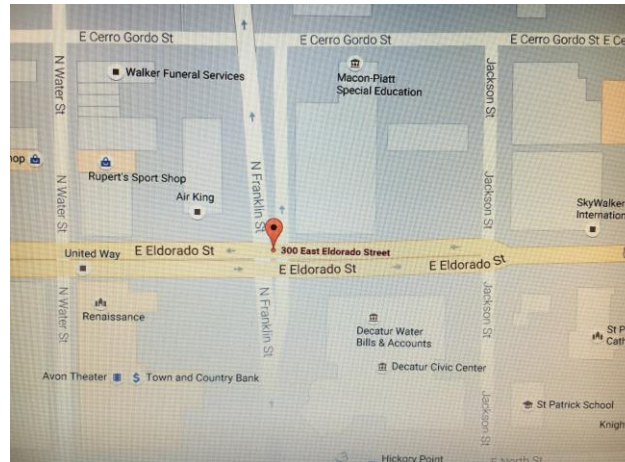
*The mission of Futures Unlimited is to serve “at risk” students and their families by providing an opportunity for education and guidance through various school-based and community-based programs. Our students have the opportunity to earn their diplomas in a timely manner by utilizing an Individualized Educational Plan in a personalized atmosphere; building academic and social skills needed for a successful life and becoming a productive member of the community.*

## Goals

- Students will earn 8 high school credits during each academic year.
- Students will increase achievement levels in Math and Reading.
- Students will improve attendance rates to a level of 85%.
- Students will explore career options through career guidance and/or job shadowing.

# Futures Unlimited

**Alternative School  
Macon and Piatt Counties  
300 E. Eldorado Street  
Decatur, IL 62523  
217/362-3080**



**Administrative Agent: Matt Snyder  
Macon/Piatt Regional Office of  
Education  
1690 Huston Decatur, IL 62526  
217/872-3721**

## HISTORY

Futures Unlimited was created by the Regional Office of Education as a GED program in an upstairs room at the downtown post office in 1978. At that time Futures had one staff person and approximately 15 students.

Futures expanded greatly in 1985 as a result of a State initiative designed to prevent truancy and to serve “at risk” students.

In 1991, Futures moved to 250 E. William St. in downtown Decatur.

In 2016, Futures moved to its present location in the Tech Center at 300 E. Eldorado St.

Futures Unlimited currently employs 12 faculty and staff members. Futures Unlimited also provides services for approximately 170 students per year in our Special Education program and High School program.

## School Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:05 am - 1:45 pm

Check out our webpage for a Referral Form and a current School Calendar  
<http://www.maconpiattroe.org/services/futures>

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- A variety of courses
- Small classes
- Individualized instruction
- Flexible schedules
- Close contact with home school
- Close cooperation with parents-guardians
- Guidance and counseling
- Mentoring and tutoring

## TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

Futures Unlimited teachers have a clear understanding of the term "Teaching." The following philosophy of the teaching/learning activities represents the principal obligations of all Futures teachers.

- **Ordered Learning** - the curriculum and syllabus based on student needs.
- **Planned Learning** - matter, method, materials based on needs, develop worthwhile learning activities.

- **Guided Learning** - stimulate students, individualized instruction, Individualized Education Plans, student participation, guided real life learning experiences.
- **Interactive learning with students-** build rapport between students and teachers leading to better student adjustments, relationships, and understanding.
- **Evaluating student's progress** - keeping accurate cumulative records.
- **Communication with parents-guardians** - knowing and understanding the student and his/her environment.
- **Interaction with colleagues** - in school, at staff meetings, at in-service sessions and seminars.
- **Learning and growing** — teachers and students.

## QUALIFICATIONS AND ADMISSION

Admission is open to any student in high school who meets the minimum age requirement of sixteen. All students must be referred to Futures Unlimited by their home school district. The home district will provide a copy of the school transcript and letter of referral.

Each student being considered for enrollment at Futures Unlimited must undergo an assessment. The purpose is to determine a student's goals, abilities and vocational interests. During this assessment, background information is gathered and reading and math abilities are determined. With the results of these assessments, an appropriate individual program is planned.