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## “THIS IS REAL-LIFE!” Abby Schoonaert

... HONOR STUDENT  
... LEADER ... EXPLORER  
... MICHIGAN CITY SUCCESS STORY

**M**ichigan City High School senior Abby Schoonaert is exploring colleges, scholarships, extracurriculars. . . and the mark she wants to make on the world.

**CSI MICHIGAN CITY:** Through the Criminal Justice program at the A.K. Smith Career Center, Abby is exposed to many aspects of law enforcement, even investigating a simulated crime scene. “Long term, I’m thinking of a career in occupational therapy. I plan to minor in psychology, so it’s good to have criminology under my belt. I love the Career Center. They approach everything as real-life work experience.”



**EXTRA SPECIAL:** At Michigan City High School, Abby’s been active in tennis, volleyball, Diversity Club, Spanish Club, Poetry Slam, Anime Club, Speech & Debate, and Ultimate Frisbee. She was selected for the Thespian Society, CTE Honor Society, the Rotary Youth Leadership Award, and the South Shore Leadership Youth for Community Engagement (SLYCE) Program. “City offers tons of extracurriculars, which helps you figure out your likes or dislikes. It opens doors for scholarships, and connects you to amazing people.”

**NO OBSTACLES:** Abby was diagnosed with dyscalculia, dysgraphia, and dyslexia in third grade. “Einstein, DaVinci and Walt Disney all had dyslexia. It’s a gift, not a disability.” She credits several of her teachers and Dr. Rory Allen Boone, her former principal at St. Paul who is now a teacher at MCHS, for helping her reach her potential.

**SECRET TO SUCCESS:** “I get to know people easily, and they open up to me. Maybe I won’t change the entire world, but I can change *one person’s* world. Who knows where that could lead?”

### Did you know?

Michigan City High School has 39 extracurricular clubs and fields athletic teams in 21 different sports.

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