

Mrs. Julie Jones  
Principal

**Desert Edge High School**  
**"We are Desert Edge"**

Mr. Talmadge Tanks  
Assistant Principal

RIGOR, RELEVANCE, and RELATIONSHIPS

Mr. Dan Grumbling  
Assistant Principal

Mr. Jason Linn  
Assistant Principal/AD



**A+ School of Excellence**

**15778 W. Yuma Road, Goodyear, AZ 85338**  
**Phone: 623-932-7500 Fax: 623-932-7502**

---

July 15, 2020

Dear Desert Edge High School Students and Parents,

Welcome to Desert Edge High School. The first day for freshmen this year is Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. They will begin their day in Advisory. The first day of school for sophomores, juniors, and seniors will be Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. All students will start their day in Advisory and will attend their classes remotely. All students need to check their school email account for the virtual invite to their advisory class. In advisory class, students will be given details regarding the remote teaching environment, instructions on how to login to classes, as well as a variety of DE and class information. Our incoming freshmen and new students will pick up their Chromebooks and receive their school email account username and password on July 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> (details are below).

**How do I know that my student is enrolled at Desert Edge High School?** Each family will need to follow the student profile update instruction sheet (attached) to submit the one required document for affirming enrollment. The document must be completed and submitted **by Wednesday July 29<sup>th</sup>** in order to receive your students' class schedule via ParentVue/StudentVue.

**Student Profile Update:** Please make any changes to student information on the Student Profile. It is extremely important that we have the most current parent email addresses. Email is our primary communication tool regarding your student and school information. **If your home address has changed, please upload and submit a copy of your most recent water, electric, or gas bill.**

**\*\*If you do not have an email account, please contact Alicia Robinson, at 623-932-7001, Ext. 3001\*\***

**When will my student receive their class schedule?** Students will be able to access their class schedule on Friday July 31<sup>st</sup>. Students will NOT be able to access their class schedule if the student profile update has not been completed and submitted.

**What if my student's schedule shows a class that was not on the course selection sheet?** Unfortunately, not every course offered at registration becomes available. There are a variety of reasons why a class might not be offered (teacher availability, student interest, etc.) resulting in another course being selected for your student. Every effort is made to schedule students in the classes they selected whenever possible.

**How can I request a schedule change?** As stated in the AFUHSD Course Description Book, a student's class schedule may be changed ONLY under the following circumstances:

1. Completion of a class by online or summer school
2. Failure of a prerequisite course
3. Changes necessary because of health reasons
4. Changes necessary to satisfy graduation requirements
5. Administrative changes such as course conflicts, unbalanced class enrollments or student misplacement

Class selections were finalized in February after we sent home course selections for parental approval. If classes were unavailable, we used alternate selections made by your student. Changes cannot be made to any course (electives, Advanced Placement, etc.) that was listed on your student's course selection sheet.

If you meet the above circumstances regarding a schedule change, please contact your counselor:

Student Last Names: A-D	Robert Vernier <a href="mailto:rvernier@aguafria.org">rvernier@aguafria.org</a>
Student Last Name: E-H	Charlotte Bethel <a href="mailto:cbethel@aguafria.org">cbethel@aguafria.org</a>
Student Last Name: I-M	Kim Sears <a href="mailto:ksears@aguafria.org">ksears@aguafria.org</a>
Student Last Name: N-R	Irma Padilla <a href="mailto:ipadilla@aguafria.org">ipadilla@aguafria.org</a>
Student Last Name: S- Z	Ashley Hurley <a href="mailto:ahurley@aguafria.org">ahurley@aguafria.org</a>

Counselors will be available beginning July 27, 2020.

**What does my student's school day look like?** The district has chosen a Super Block schedule which means students will be attending three classes each day (145-minutes in length) along with their Advisory class. Students will not have classes on Wednesdays. We are currently awaiting approval of our final bell schedule and will send it out as soon as we receive it. Attendance will be taken daily in each class. The District 10-Day Attendance Policy will be followed. Students who acquire ten absences in a class will lose credit for that course. Students will then be required to complete the attendance appeal process to get approval for credit(s) loss.

**What does the remote learning environment look like for students? (Phase I)** As opposed to online teaching, remote teaching means that your student will have a set schedule each day of the week for which they will be reporting to class on their device. This means that teachers will be directly interfacing with your student via Google, Zoom or Screencastify, etc. each day for which your student is scheduled to meet. After reviewing the bell schedule (coming soon), you might feel the 145-minute class period is a long time to be logged in. We also share these concerns. As a result, the schedule will not expect students to directly interface with their teacher on video for the whole period, but instead each class period will be split - with part of each class for direct instruction and part of the class devoted to work study session and the completion of assignments, projects, testing, and get teacher assistance.

**What does the hybrid learning environment look like for students? (Phase II)** The hybrid learning environment allows us to bring your student back to campus for in-person instruction. The bell schedule would remain the same and instruction would not deviate much from the remote model. When permitted to return to campus, students would be split into 2 groups – Group A and Group B – to decrease class sizes which allows social distancing and the implementation of AZ/CDC guidelines. Student Group A would attend class in-person on Mon/Thurs while Student Group B would attend class remotely. On Tues/Fri, Student Group B

would attend class in-person while Student Group A would attend class remotely. No students would be on-campus on Wednesday for deep cleaning. More details and info to come when we get to this phase.

**What does the online learning environment look like?**

Students may register for full online learning. The online learning environment would entail registering your student at our alternative program “Coldwater Academy” where they would be enrolled in the rigorous OdysseyWare online platform. Please keep in mind this learning environment would not be the same as last spring on Google Classroom, but would be more software based and require completion of a challenging curriculum and workload. In addition, students would not have access to a regular “live” teacher or Desert Edge intervention supports. A student who chooses the online learning environment would not be able to switch back to the remote/hybrid environment in the middle of a nine-week period. Please contact Bryan Richman, [brichman@aguafria.org](mailto:brichman@aguafria.org) for more information.

**What does the 1:1 Digital Learning Initiative mean for your student?** Your student will be assigned a District-owned Chromebook that will *ONLY* be used by your student for the sole purpose of accessing educationally appropriate materials, information, programs, and websites. The District will retain full ownership of all Chromebook, equipment, and software. Please review the technology form (attached) for important information and insurance options.

**How do students receive their Chromebooks?** All students must have a Chromebook in order to attend classes on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Chromebooks typically are checked-out in August and collected in May. However, due to Covid-19, all students were able to keep their Chromebooks over the summer so returning students should already have a device to start the 2020-2021 school year. If you are a returning DE student and have any issues with your Chromebook, please contact Lisa Dailey, Librarian, [ldailey@aguafria.org](mailto:ldailey@aguafria.org) before July 31<sup>st</sup>.

Incoming Freshmen and New Students need to follow the schedule below in order to pick up their school-issued Chromebook and school email account username and password. Parents will also receive usernames and passwords to access their ParentVue account. Students who do not pick up their device or resolve technology issues will experience delays to their start of school. Please contact Lisa Dailey, Librarian, [ldailey@aguafria.org](mailto:ldailey@aguafria.org) with any questions or concerns.

**Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup>**

Freshman Student Last Names A - G = 8:30AM – 11:30AM

Freshman Student Last Names H –M = 12:30PM – 3:30PM

**Tuesday, July 28<sup>st</sup>**

Freshman Student Last Names N-Z = 8:30AM – 11:30PM

All 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade New Students = 12:30PM – 3:30PM

Students need to enter the main entrance parking lot on Goodyear Blvd (which is also the parent pickup and drop off zone). Students will be directed to the outside library doors to pick up their device. Students and parents are required to wear a face covering and practice social distancing while on campus.

**How does my student purchase Chromebook Insurance to protect their device?** Students have the opportunity to purchase a Device Protection Plan through the district. It is recommended that parents purchase the Device Protection Plan to minimize any costs that may arise during the school year. Families who choose not to purchase the Device Protection Plan are 100% responsible for all repair and replacement costs. Details of the plan and how to purchase it are available online at [www.aguafria.org/dpp](http://www.aguafria.org/dpp). Payment for the Device Protection Plan must be made by Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup> to be active for the 2020-2021 school year.

**What fees do I need to pay?** At the beginning of each season, students participating in athletics are required to pay a \$100 participation fee per sport (limited to \$400 per family). Tax credits may be used to pay this fee. Athletic fees will not be charged until athletics begin and teams are selected.

Your student may also be enrolled in a course that has a required fee. To determine what those fees might be for your students, please review the enclosed fee schedule. Class fees have been waived for the 1<sup>st</sup> Semester.

In addition to the required fees mentioned above, optional purchases can be made for student athletic passes, family athletic passes, yearbooks, and parking permit. Parking permits fees have been waived for the 1<sup>st</sup> Semester.

**How can my student receive breakfast and lunch during remote learning?**

AFUHSD will be providing meal service via bus routes, to our students during their remote learning instruction. Each day students will receive one breakfast meal and one lunch meal. Cost of the meal will depend on the student's meal status. If you would like to participate in our meal service via bus routes, please click on the link below and fill out the short form.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdu1GTOblUFqaIoG05PFqzMzmBXvltroYyj9soEXLkWppXZbA/viewform>

**How do I apply for Free and Reduced Lunch?** We encourage all families to apply for Agua Fria Union High School District Free and Reduced Lunch program. In addition to receiving free and reduced price lunch, it has many other cost benefits when it comes to athletic and academic programs. Application can also be completed online at

<https://family.titank12.com/application/new?identifier=3ZRQJ3>

If you have any questions or concerns regarding meal service via bus routes or Meal Benefit Applications please contact Barbara Duncan at 623-932-7009 or [bduncan@aguafria.org](mailto:bduncan@aguafria.org)

**How does my student get a School ID card?** Student ID's will be required to be worn on a school-issued Desert Edge lanyard and visible at all times. Once students are permitted to return to campus, we will provide further information.

**What bus does my student ride?** The transportation department will be sending out information regarding expectations and procedures for those students who need to ride the bus. If you do not receive any information from transportation department by August 3<sup>rd</sup>, please email Eric Laneri, [elaneri@aguafria.org](mailto:elaneri@aguafria.org)

**How do I make changes to my student's health form?** If your student's health form needs to be updated (see attached), please submit to Dionne Gonzalez, DE Nurse, [dgonzalez@aguafria.org](mailto:dgonzalez@aguafria.org)

We will send another communication regarding bell schedule, in-person expectations, safety requirements etc. as we get closer to implementing the hybrid learning environment model (Phase

II). This has been a challenging time for all of us as we try to plan for the reopening of school. We will continue to send out information to you as quickly as we can, but answers have been slow-coming due to the rapidly changing environment surrounding us. We thank you for your understanding and patience. Overall, our priority is the safety of our students, staff, and community and hopefully we will all be back together soon.

Once again, **please complete and submit the one required student profile update to affirm enrollment before July 29<sup>th</sup> in order to receive your student's class schedule via ParentVue/StudentVue on July 31<sup>st</sup>.**

*Go Scorpions!*

We are Desert Edge,

Julie Jones     Dan Grumbling  
Principal     Assistant Principal

Jason Linn  
Assistant Principal/AD

Talmadge Tanks  
Assistant Principal

**\*Para información en español, comuníquese con Alicia Robinson al 623-932-7500, ext. 3001.**