



DESERT EDGE COMMUNITY QUARTERLY

Desert Edge High School...*We Are Desert Edge!*

January 7, 2019

Registration for 2019-2020 Begins

Counselors will meet with students by grade level through the student's English class to discuss credit requirements, career planning, and college readiness. Students are encouraged to make course selection decisions based on their future college and career goals.

The course selections provided to each grade level are based on the courses described in the AFUHSD Course Description Book. The annual course selection process enables us as a school to evaluate our student choices in developing our master schedule each year. Based on the number of students that select a course and the availability of qualified teacher personnel, the schedule for each school is then finalized. The overall goal is to offer every student courses that fit their interests and meet their personal goals. Since staffing of teachers is largely determined by the students' course selections, students will be held to the courses selected, including alternates. There are only a few reasons in which schedule changes are allowed so be sure to think through your choices now!

Registration Dates:

January 7-11: Grade level presentations and elective/course rush during Power hour

January 7 Power hour presentation for freshman 2019-20 Registration

January 8 Power hour presentation for sophomores 2019-20 Registration

January 10 Power hour presentation for juniors 2019-20 Registration

January 15 Counselors begin meeting with DE students to review course requests.

January 15-February 15: Course requests will be viewable on ParentVue and StudentVue

January 23 Scorpion Showcase

February 13: Course requests will be distributed for parent/guardian review.

February 15: Any requests for changes to course requests must be submitted to the school counseling office.



Graduation

Seniors have already had their first meeting, Jostens has visited and graduation supplies should have all been ordered by now. If you missed it, please contact Jostens directly at 602-765-7227 or go to Jostens.com. The event is going to be held at the The State Farm Stadium on Saturday, May 20th, 2019 at 1 pm. Seniors will have an informational meeting on February 6th.

Site Council



Want to be a member? Desert Edge Site Council is open to all parents and community members. The main focus is to exchange information about what is happening at Desert Edge High School between the principal and site council members. Members are encouraged to attend as we discuss things that impact our campus. We will be holding our next meeting on January 15th at 4:30 pm in the library. Meetings are quarterly and held the first Tuesday following our breaks. We invite you to join us as we partner in making Desert Edge a premier school in the west valley. Thank you for your participation in education!

What The "Title 1" Label Means for Desert Edge

Most stakeholders are aware that Desert Edge is a Title I school, but the question is: What does that mean? The purpose of Title I is to ensure that all children have a fair and equal opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach proficiency on State academic achievement standards and state academic assessments. For this to occur, the U.S. Department of Education provides supplemental funding to local school districts to meet the needs of at-risk and low-income students. The basic principle of Title I is that schools with large concentrations of low-income students will receive supplemental funds to assist in meeting student's educational goals. For an entire school to qualify for Title I funds, at least 40% of students must enroll in the free and reduced lunch program.

How the Title I funds are used primarily rests with Desert Edge. However, there are guidelines that must be followed regarding school spending. Title I funds can be used to improve curriculum, instructional activities, counseling, parental involvement, increase staff and program improvement. In the past, Desert Edge has used Title I funding to provide tutoring, summer school, and supplemental courses in English and math. Technology has been infused into the classroom in the form of chrome books, laptops, iPads, and printers. Class sizes have been reduced through the hiring of additional teachers, and extra instructional materials have been purchased to enhance learning. Guest speakers with motivational messages have been invited to the campus to make connections with students. As a result of Title I funding, Desert Edge has been able to bring valuable resources and supports (that it would not normally have) to its students, teachers, and parents.

Overall, being a Title I school should be embraced rather than being viewed as a negative representation of the student demographics. Desert Edge is flourishing and it is these types of positive programs that will help it achieve its vision of "All Students College and Career Ready."

*Desert Edge's Three "R's":
Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships*

Victory with Honor

DE ATHLETICS

From the desk of the Athletic Director, Mr. Talmadge Tanks...

What a great start into the Winter Season. Sport and Performance Arts activities excelled across the board. With Amarei Johnson making an appearance in the Evening News, to our Scorpion Dance team having a sold out concert all 3 nights, our students are definitely working together in unity, excellence and integrity.

Our coaches continue to work hard to prepare our students for their academic and athletic success and future challenges. Girls' soccer is making strides with a new team and a new Coach this year. Our boys Varsity Soccer team stands undefeated at the moment. The Wrestling team have been breaking barriers in inclusivity, and our basketball teams have been sweeping up the wins!

We look forward to a great Spring Sports, as we conclude our 2018 – 2019 Winter athletic season. We would like to remind you that you are able to access all of Desert Edge Athletic events at DEscorpions.com, which is also accessible on our Desert Edge webpage. We feel it will provide significant advantages to our school community. It is web based, therefore we can provide instant access to the most up-to-date information at all times. All changes are reflected instantly as soon as they are made. Be sure to support our student athletes and performers, because "We R DE"!

Upcoming:

Desert Edge Spring Athletics tryouts start on February 4, 2019.

Regular season competition start: February 20, 2019

DE Spring Head Coaches:

Women's Softball: Robert Iler

Men's Baseball: Christopher Hoth

Track & Field: Ian Gardner

ART CLUB

Art Club Mural: Over the past 6 weeks Art Club has been developing a mural for the Athletic Training Department. The Athletic Training Department commissioned the art club to paint a mural. The mural incorporates the DEHS Scorpion Tail with the Medicine Symbol. The Art Club Artists learned about scale, proportion, estimation, and painting technique. The mural is a success and a great way for student artists to engage with their community. Art Club plans to develop more murals in the community.

Art Club in the Community: The City of Goodyear hosts an annual Chalk Art Festival that has run for the last 7 years, and was started by DEHS art teacher Mr. Galto. The art club did a fantastic job creating a chalk mural for the community. Alongside the students, Mr. Williams also did his own chalk piece that won first place and earned recognition from not only fellow artists but also the city. Part of the Arts Conservatory at DEHS is dedicated to students working within the community in various art forms.





Conservatory of Arts & Design News

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)

In late spring of 2018 school year, Dustin Loehr, ADE Director of Arts Education, Gifted Education, and Title IV, contacted me to ask if my Conservatory of Arts and Design sculpture students would like to design and construct trophies for the 2018 ESSA Conference. I thought about how well this offer aligned with DEHS's goal to develop integrated Project Based Learning into curriculum and the authenticity of this project, so I immediately said yes.

During this Fall Semester my Sculpture and Ceramics II class accepted the challenge to plan, design, and construct trophies for ESSA. I scaffolded the project to include project benchmarks that included research, project design, project execution, and presentation. My students were responsible for developing 6 unique trophies for the Title I recognition program based on the *Six Principles of Effective Schools* which include the following categories:

1. Effective Leadership
2. Effective Teachers and Instruction
3. Effective Organization of Time
4. Effective Curriculum
5. Conditions, Climate and Culture
6. Family and Community Engagement

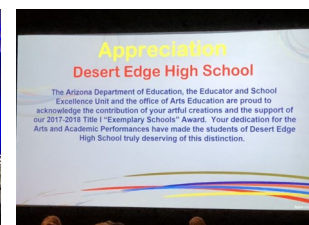
Students worked a duration of 9 weeks from the planning stages to the final presentation awards ceremony on November 14, 2018.

Unknown before accepting this professional project in the Spring, Dustin also invited us in September to attend and present at the 2018 ESSA Conference in Tucson. Public speaking is a fear for many people and my students rose to the occasion and represented our school and district in an honorable manner. They truly represented College and Career Readiness. The Conservatory of Arts and Design sculpture students presented their sculptural trophies to exemplary Title 1 schools in an Exemplary Schools Awards Ceremony. They spoke in front of 500 educational professionals, ADE Superintendent of Public Instruction Diane Douglas, and other various government officials. Students discussed their creative process, challenges with their project, and the symbolism communicated in their work. Student prepared for public speaking, by first practicing in front of our level 1 theater class and received feedback from our Theater instructor Ms. Royal. This was a true authentic professional experience for our students.

At the conclusion of the ceremony Dustin Loehr and Diane Douglas introduced 1 additional award for exemplary educa-

tion. They called me up to the stage and I was presented with a plaque to recognize Desert Edge High School for its Exemplary Arts Education programming. It is an honor to be recognized at the state level for providing students with a holistic approach to their education.

In addition, DEHS Conservatory Choir and Dance performed at the conference. Both Mrs. Randels and Ms. Lowe applied to have their student perform. They had to send video footage and music samples as part of the application process. Both Choir and Dance were selected into the conference and scheduled as featured performers. Both programs received positive feedback and networking possibilities. Mrs. Randels reported that a national magazine publication took pictures of her dancers during their performance. Overall it was an honor to participate and receive recognition by ADE and the ESSA Conference.

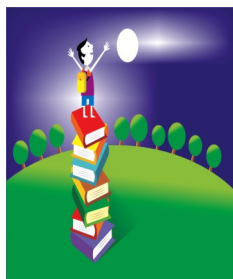


SPECIAL EDUCATION



Thank you to everyone who helped the ESS department with midterms. Checking the google forms both Mrs. Weiler and Mr. Grumbling sent with our locations was the first step in organizing all our students needs. Being flexible with the extended time and separate testing locations accommodations was hard work and we thank you for your continued patience. Hopefully finals will be a bit smoother. Thank you for welcoming me to my first semester at DE.

ENGLISH



This semester has been a busy time for students and teachers alike! The rigor has increased for the CFA's (Common Formative Assessments) and teachers have restructured the after school English Lab to help students hone-in on particular skills that they struggle with in a new environment. Similarly, the implementation of Writing Benchmarks this year has allowed teachers to take a different approach to the standards and has helped students learn a step-by-step approach to refine the strategies they try. Students have just completed mid-term exams which will demonstrate their newly-acquired skills. We are excited to begin anew in January!

MATH

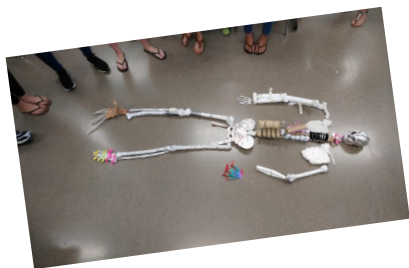


The DE Math Department had a very productive first semester. We saw gains in student mastery through the strategic use of the Math Lab, PICs, AOT, and our intervention model. Students also had access to an incredible amount of research based learning models/intervention that help them to be successful in their mathematics' career. Many students have already had the chance to participate in Project Based Learning that they will showcase at the Night of Excellence. And, all student will have had the opportunity to participate in a PBL by the next semester. We are looking forward to the continued development of these programs and the positive impact they will have on our learning community. From all of us in the DE Math Department, "Have a Happy New Year!"

SCIENCE



The science team is hard at work getting students ready for midterms and most importantly, life. Science affects every part of our life and the more our students understand how it works the more information and skill they have to navigate our complex world. Various students are getting ready for STEMCON 8.0 by enhancing their knowledge and building things such as a cardboard car. Forensics dove into a little anatomy with rat autopsies! Environmental Science built miniature ecosystems, an aquaponics system and are learning how humans are impacting various species. Biology students learned why they can blame their parents for their traits (genetics). Anatomy learned the various systems of the body including the skeletal system by building their own using household items.



DESERT EDGE HIGH SCHOOL BY DEPARTMENT



FINE ARTS



DANCE

All students in Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced and Performance Dance had the opportunity to perform in our annual winter dance concert "On Pointe". Over 220 students took the stage on December 12th, 13th and 14th and performed the pieces they had been working on throughout the semester. We sold out on Thursday and Friday night! This year we added on an additional performance opportunity for all dancers to participate in; our very first production number which was Mary Poppins. We had various sections such as Spoonful of Sugar, Jolly Holliday, Step in Time and Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious to help portray the theme of the story. Through fundraising, we were able to purchase costumes specific to Mary Poppins and were able to have a set built to enhance the story. Students involved in our production also performed for the entire staff for our annual holiday luncheon. Upon our return from winter break, dance will be a part of club rush week to promote our program and to inform students about dance classes offered at DE.



CHOIR

The Desert Edge choirs have been very busy this past semester. We recently hosted the Holiday Spectacular concerts on Dec. 5 & 6 and both Show Choir and Concert Choirs performed for five middle/elementary schools on Dec. 11th. Additional performances included the Nativity Festival on Nov 30th, the Veterans Day celebration at Desert Star in the middle of November and the Avondale Elementary School District Board Meeting on Dec. 4th. Our highlight was being selected to perform, along with Dance and art students, at the ESSA State Conference in Tucson this past November. A big THANK YOU goes out to the parents who support our program by allowing us to take part in so many opportunities. We have just finished auditions for Beauty & The Beast and are looking forward to starting rehearsals when we get back from break. I am looking forward to more music making this spring.

ART

Twice annually the City of Goodyear hosts a juried art exhibition for high school students. Scholarship awards are awarded to the top six selected and one Best in Show recognition. Ribbons are also given to recognize honorable mention awards. The exhibition is open to all currently enrolled High School students who reside in Goodyear, grades 9-12, in public, private, charter and alternative schools.

The following DEHS Visual Art students placed in the 2018 Fall Goodyear Mayor Select Art Exhibition.

3D/Mixed Media

1st	Faith Jackson	\$200	Impending Start	11th grade
2nd	Kiera Mitchell	\$100	Beneath my Skin	12th grade

Honorable Mention:

Kayla Huynh, Hades and Persephone; Amy Whitler, Hidden Treasures; Dylan Geeting, Flamingo Lagoon; Jelan Frett, The Shades of Blue; Kiera Mitchell, Geometrically Profound; Davion Washington, The Morning After.

BAND

The Instrumental Music Department at Desert Edge has been busy these last couple of months! Our marching band successfully qualified for state, finishing 16th overall. This was quite a feat for our students, and we are very proud of them. They continued with a Holiday parade in Glendale and joined the Ghostbusters of Arizona in the Fiesta Bowl Parade. Again, the students represented our program, the school, and our community as great ambassadors. Our beginning band had their first concert of the year along with the Avondale District band in December, and our guitar students wrapped up another successful semester. We would like to thank all the support we have received this year and look forward to another great upcoming semester.

THEATRE

All Theatre classes have just concluded with the end of the semester. Theatre I ended their semester by performing monologues for the first time before taking their EOCA's. Theatre II's EOCA's were the performance of contemporary monologues and Theatre III's EOCA's were the presentation of a musical or play from concept including casting, lighting, sound, & costuming.

After a successful fall with the production of Arthur Miller's "The Crucible," the DEHS Thespian Troupe 6843 attended the Arizona State Thespian Festival in November. There they received an "Excellent" Troupe rating for their performance of the one-act play "Tracks" by Peter Tarsi, directed by senior Ian Burnett as his Capstone project.

Cutting Edge Theatre has ended the semester by casting "Beauty & the Beast." There will be 4 performances April 11-13th in DEHS's Performing Arts Center. The show, starring seniors Jehila Cutwright as "Belle" and Ian Burnett as "the Beast" features a cast of 45 talented DEHS students from all departments of the Conservatory!

DESERT EDGE HIGH SCHOOL BY DEPARTMENT



SOCIAL STUDIES

The Social Studies Department participated in a Mock Election on Tuesday, October 23, 2018. Students were able to choose candidates on a ballot and run their ballot through a voting machine. Desert Edge's We the People team placed first in Region 7 on Saturday, December 8, 2018 and will be one of ten schools competing in the State Competition on Friday, January 11, 2019. Government students participated in a Presidential Project to better understand the election process and to analyze the roles and duties of the United States President. Both World History and U.S. History students participated in projects throughout the semester such as creating Picture Books and creating Autopsy Reports on certain time periods. Our AP classes are focusing on preparing students for their AP Exams in May and also increasing the reading and writing skills these tests demand. As a Department, Social Studies students participated in various Community Service throughout the Fall Semester. Activities included, participating in the City of Goodyear Make a Difference Day, planting new bushes and trees at the Goodyear Community Park, buying books for the holidays for Avondale Elementary families, and helping run Centerra Mirage STEM Academy's Winter Wonderland. We are so proud of the difference our students are making in our community! As a Department we are looking forward to a wonderful 2019 with our students.



Physical Education

The Physical Education department wrapped up the first semester by administering fitness and performance assessments. We were excited to see our students achieve personal bests. The students' hard work in Strength and Conditioning as well as the Personal Development classes produced amazing results. We are looking forward to another fantastic semester of accomplishments in 2019. We encourage all to get outside and enjoy some physical activity in this great weather! Have a wonderful Winter Break everyone!



INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE

All of our Spanish classes put in a lot of good work first semester! Spanish 1 learned a lot of the basics. Spanish 2 started working on past tense. Spanish 3 started working on the Subjunctive. AP Spanish worked on the skills for the AP test in May. We are all looking forward to what second semester will bring. Be on the lookout for projects and lots of new content. Please encourage your student to consistently be practicing with what they are learning in class. They should be doing Quizlet, Conjuguemos, and/or listening to Spanish regularly.



2nd Annual Community Career Classic

On Friday, December 7, 2018 Desert Edge High School welcomed over 70 guest speakers from our community to speak with our students about their careers. Each student got to see 4 different careers during the event. The goal is to have every student see 16 different careers by the time they graduate in order to be exposed to a potential post high school path. Thank you to all of our community members who came out to help prepare our kids for the future.



CALENDAR

January

7-2nd Semester Begins
7-11 Elective Rush Week
15-Site Council Meeting
16- Josten's Rings (Juniors)
21-No School, MLK Jr. Day
23-Scorpion Showcase
22-23-Ring Orders @lunch
22-Josten's Family Night

February

5-Parent Workshop
6-Senior Grad Meeting
6-Early Release, No Late Start
9-ACT Test
9-Winter Dance
15-Spring Sports Assembly
18-No School, Presidents' Day
19- Spring Band Concert
21-Prom Fashion Show
27-High Honors Assembly

March

5-Grad Items Delivered
11-15-Spring Break
19-Site Council Meeting
25-29-Library Week
26-Blood Drive

April

1-3-AzMerit, AIMS
10-Early Release, No Late Start
11-13 Spring Play
13-ACT Test
15-16 AzMerit
18- Night of Excellence
19-No School, April Break

TAX CREDIT 101

Support DEHS - Extra-Curricular Tax Credits Made Easy!

You can donate up to \$400 and receive it all back with your Arizona taxes! It is so easy, and so beneficial to you, your student, and our school, that everyone should do it.

Here are some fun facts that will help you to donate:

1. You can donate \$200 if you are filing single or \$400 if filing jointly.
2. **You can donate for tax year 2018 up until April 15, 2019 Tax Day.**
3. You can donate to any extra-curricular club or for participation fees for sports or co-curricular activity fees, and AP testing fees.
4. You can donate in installments. You don't have to donate all at once.
5. You can divide it between different activities if the student you are helping has more than one.
6. You don't have to donate the maximum amount. Donate what you need to, or you can afford.
7. You can share the love and simply donate to any deserving program or help out any of our deserving students.

The easiest, and best, way to process your Extra-Curricular Tax Credit donation is to visit the DEHS web store website, print out the extra-curricular tax credit form, and come on in to the bookstore at DEHS. Our bookstore employees can assist you in filling it out and making sure it is applied where you want it.

Please do not try and pay online, we have had the money go to places other than DEHS.