



DESERT EDGE COMMUNITY QUARTERLY

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

March 19, 2019

NEW BUILDING AT DESERT EDGE

Desert Edge High School is very excited about the upcoming completion of our new fieldhouse. We would like to thank the community for voting for the bond that allowed this project to take place. The facility consists of many high end finishes and upgrades for our campus and include:

- ☐ Weight room for strength and conditioning classes and athletic programs
- ☐ A training triage room for CTE athletic training program
- ☐ Locker rooms for both men's and women's outdoor sports

Please look for more information in the coming weeks on our website and in weekly updates regarding the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony we will hold with tours and refreshments. If you have not already seen it as you drive by on Yuma, below are some pictures of the exterior finish.



We Are Desert Edge



Create
Perform
Present
Produce
Respond
Connect



Conservatory Hosts First Annual AFUHSD Fine Arts Showcase

On March 2, 2019, a few thousand people visited the Conservatory of Arts and Design at Desert Edge to experience the talented artists in the First Annual AFUHSD Fine Arts Showcase. The showcase was a way to say thank you to our local community for their continued support of arts education. This AFUHSD Fine Arts Showcase featured the talented performance and visual arts students from Agua Fria Union's five high schools, Agua Fria, Canyon View, Desert Edge, Millennium, and Verrado High School. There was dance, instrumental music, theater performance, vocal music, and color guard, alongside a large visual arts gallery featuring painting, drawing, photography, and sculpture. In partnership with the AFUHSD Fine Arts Showcase, the Desert Edge Conservatory of Fine Arts Booster (DECOFAB) hosted the second annual Creative Community Arts Festival. In addition to the talented performances, the booster club brought in local vendors, school clubs, and food trucks. The event was a huge success with great participation from student artists, community members, and a wide variety of vendors. Thank you for supporting our local vendors and the artistic talents from the students of Agua Fria Union High School district. The Conservatory of Arts and Design exemplified the extraordinary talents from all student artists.

To check out more pictures of the event go to <https://www.aquafria.org/Page/6144>



Rigor, Relevance and Relationships

ALL STUDENTS COLLEGE & CAREER READY

AZ MERIT & AIMS SCIENCE TESTING

AzMerit and AIMS Science testing will be here soon! It is important that our students be well prepared and take these tests seriously. We know that *Desert Edge is an excellent High School*, and the AzMerit and AIMS Science tests are one way we show the rest of the world that - **We Are DE!**

We will have **special schedules** for all of our AzMerit Testing and early release day for AIMS Science. All **testers will begin testing at 8:10 a.m.** All others will have a later start. **Please consult the DEHS website for the AzMerit & AIMS Bell Schedule for exact times each day.**

English I, Honors English I, English II, Honors English II, English III and AP Language students will be testing on Monday April 1st (Reading) and Tuesday April 2nd (Writing).

All of our students currently taking Biology or Agriculture II as well as students who have already taken biology but not AIMS tested will be taking the AIMS Science test on Wednesday April 3.

Algebra I, Honors Algebra I, Algebra II, Honors Algebra II, Geometry, and Honors Geometry will be testing April 15th and 16th.

Our teachers and support staff have been working diligently all year to prepare your students for these days, and now we ask for your help. Students should be well **rested**, well **fed**, and **have all of their technology** in top shape for the testing! Students who miss testing will miss additional class time for makeup testing!

AZMerit and AIMS Testing Spring 2019

Test	Time	Date
Reading Tests (Parts 1 & 2)	3 hours	Monday April 1, 2019
Writing Test	3 hours	Tuesday April 2, 2019
AIMS Science	2 hours	Wednesday April 3, 2019
Math Test Part 1	2 hours	Monday April 15, 2019
Math Test Part 2	2 hours	Tuesday April 16, 2019

ALL STUDENTS COLLEGE & CAREER READY

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Desert Edge students are planning to take a variety of Advanced Placement exams this spring. AP teachers are working with their students to prepare them to take the exam. Students may earn college credit and academic distinction through their AP exam success.

This year the exams will occur between May 6 and May 16. The district will help assist in covering the cost by paying 50% for the first two exams and covering the cost of each additional exam.

Most tests begin at the start of school on our campus; however, some tests do begin at 12:00 p.m. The testing schedule and other test details are mandated by The College Board and is the same throughout the United States.

2019 AP EXAM SCHEDULE		
Most AP Exams will take place in the Aux Gym		
Date	Morning, 8:00 am start time	Afternoon, 12:00 pm start time
Monday, May 6	United States Govt & Politics	Environment Science
Tuesday, May 7	Spanish Language & Culture	Physics 1: Algebra-Based
Wednesday, May 8	English Literature & Composition	
Thursday, May 9	Chemistry	Psychology
Friday, May 10	United States History	
Monday, May 13	Biology	
Tuesday, May 14	Calculus AB	
Wednesday, May 15	English Language & Composition	
Thursday, May 16	World History	Statistics

Summer School

Summer is rapidly approaching and for some that means SUMMER SCHOOL. It is important for all students to be on track for graduation and summer school is an excellent way to remedy a course failure. Please refer to the district website for more information. Also all information for students regarding summer school will be provided in there google classroom Cohort.

Students can re-take a class(es) they failed and earn those credits needed to get back on-track to graduate. District is also offering this year for the first time an opportunity to earn original credits in courses. Students and/or parents should reach out to their counselor to find out exactly what classes are needed.

DE Athletic Department News



The Desert Edge Fieldhouse becomes a reality.

The 10,000 square-foot facility is located just beyond the north end zone of DE stadium is slated for open house April 18, 2019.

The Desert Edge track has a new track surface and is ready for competition.

Construction of the new sand volleyball courts has been completed. Our Girls are excited to compete at home on our new courts this spring.

These facilities are a game change for us and is very important to the success moving forward. It's a facility that is going to enhance the entire student-athlete experience at DE and benefit every one of our student-athlete, as well as the physical education student population.

Spring Tryouts:

Desert Edge Spring Athletics tryouts were held February 5, 2018 and teams are in full swing with contests. Desert Edge baseball boosters will again host Coach Bob Baseball March 15-26, 2019. We look forward to a great spring season, and as we move through our 2018 – 2019 spring athletic season, we would like to remind you that you are able to access all of Desert Edge athletic events utilizing the VNN and DEscorptions.com, which is accessible on our webpage. We feel it will provide significant advantages to our school community. Because it is web based, 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. There are many key features that are explained on our athletic website.

Our coaches continue to work hard to prepare our students for their academic and athletic successes and future challenges.

Our DE Spring Head Coaches are:

Men's Baseball: Christopher Hoth

Women's Softball: Robert Iler

Track & Field: Ian Gardner

Women's Tennis: Stephen Kraynick

Men's Tennis: Daniel Black

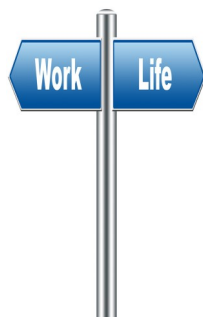
Men's Volleyball: Jesse Dobson

Beach Volleyball: Tracie Gallegos

Athletic Trainer: Curtis Johnson



DESERT EDGE HIGH SCHOOL BY DEPARTMENT



CTE (Career Technical Education)

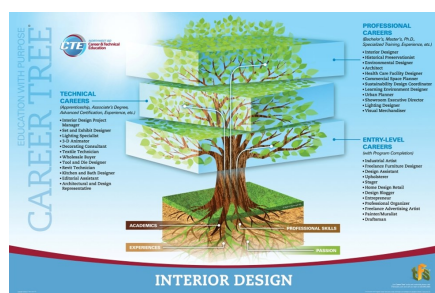
Marketing Program - DECA Career Development Conference was wonderful. I could not be more proud of our students. They improved tremendously since District competition and our President, Kayden Guenther, came in 5th in the state for Marketing Communications. But beyond test scores, role plays and medals, our kiddos were respectful, professional, kind, helpful and fully supportive of each other. They did us proud!!!

Film & TV Program had eight students compete in SkillsUSA on February 22-23. Freshman Zamir Battles and Junior Diana Salcido placed 6th out of 40 teams in the "TV Productions" contest and qualified for the state competition in April.

Graphic Design Program - FBLA goes to Region at ASU West:



Agriculture Program – The FFA has been busy in competitions this Spring. Samantha Saldana placed 3rd in State in the Job Interview competition, at district level competitions Samantha placed 2nd, Aquaculture Team placed 3rd and the Ag Mechanics Team placed 5th. Our Horse Team worked hard and competed well! Agriculture classes have been busy finishing the harvest on winter gardens and preparing to plant our Spring gardens as well continue our National FFA Living to Serve Grant to provide fresh eggs from our laying hens for the Avondale Senior Center.



The CTE programs have been hard at work preparing for their CTSOs (Career Technical Student Organizations) spring conferences and competitions. We wish the best of luck to DECA, FCCLA, Skills, HOSA & FFA!

We are also busy sharing the importance of the right student, in the right program for the right reasons! We visit with students about careers they see themselves in and use our Career Tree to help them keep their eye on their goals – all while discussing whether they'll need Tech School or a 4 year degree.

All CTE programs are collecting new or gently used professional clothing to create a Clothing Closet for all DEHS students. We like to help our students dress for success as the attend competitions, work at their internship placements as well as when they go to an interview. If you're interested in donating contact any CTE teacher to coordinate drop off.

DESERT EDGE HIGH SCHOOL BY DEPARTMENT

ENGLISH



It has been a busy semester! Freshmen are finishing *Romeo and Juliet* where students have thoroughly enjoyed connecting the film to the text and looking at vocabulary in context. Sophomores just finished an either an argumentative essay or the *Titanic* project and once they return from spring break, they will work on their PBL. The Honors sophomore class will be building a quilt square that displays one out of the thirty Universal Declarations of Human Rights that they have selected. The materials for this project were purchased with grant money thanks to the Agua Fria Foundation!

Juniors are working through the novel *The Great Gatsby* focusing on the theme and preparing for the upcoming "Night of Excellence" projects. Students will wrap up the unit with the viewing of the 2013 film. In AP Language & Composition, students are focusing on rhetorical analysis and preparing for the upcoming AP exam.

Seniors are wrapping up the senior research paper and during the fourth quarter will be studying various novels such as *Things They Carried* or *1984*. In AP Literature & Composition, students are reading *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley for their dystopian unit, as well as preparing for the upcoming AP Exam.

Last, but not least, in the Read 180 program, the students have just finished writing a literary analysis from a chapter in the book, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, by Alexie Sherman. Students learned to look at evidence from the text and analyze it; it was a difficult task at first, but after much practice, many grasped the concept.

SOCIAL STUDIES



Desert Edge's *We the People* team competed in the State Competition on Friday, January 11, 2019 and won Unit awards and recognition for their knowledge in Political Philosophy and International Politics and Citizenship. Our AP classes are continuing to focus on preparing for the AP Exams in May. World History classes participated in a simulation on the Scramble for Africa, created World War I technology advertisements and scrapbooks and created and analyzed propaganda pieces on the Rise of the Dictators. U.S. History classes worked on World War I propaganda posters and also compared 1920's themes such as mass media, education and music to today's themes. Government and Economics students worked on learning economic terms and theories and looked at the debate on minimum wage and argued whether or not it should be raised or remain the same. World Religion students took a field trip to a Sikh Gurdwara and a Buddhist Temple to expand on what they studied in the classroom this year.

MATH



The DE Math Department is having a great year. We continue to see the positive impact of 1-1 on our student's learning. Teachers are using the advantage of 1-1 to actively engage students with programs like Kahn Academy, Schoology, Desmos, Google Classroom and many other programs. Students are utilizing this benefit of real time personalized instruction that extends beyond the classroom, boosting their scores on performance assessments. Our interventions/enrichments programs such as Project Based Learning along with the Math Lab and others have made an incredible difference in student learning here at Desert Edge. The Math Lab, alone, has helped over 320 students this year. We have seen its impact helping a majority of attending Math Lab students to master the remediated standards. The Math Department is excited about the direction that the Math Lab is leading for student remediation. We are looking forward to the continued development of these programs and the positive impact they will have on the Desert Edge Community.

DESERT EDGE HIGH SCHOOL BY DEPARTMENT

SCIENCE



Science has been doing a lot of experimentation and real world application in the 3rd Quarter. Biology is learning about evolution and ecology. They created comic books to tell the story of natural selection in rat populations. AP Biology learned about genetics and biotechnology. One of their projects was to create posters and 3D models to inform viewers about a virus. Environmental science worked on water, mining, forest, and agricultural issues. Some went on a field trip to the Salt River to help with ecological restoration efforts. In class they built water filters, analyzed forest fires using matches, mined chocolate chip cookies, and designed gardens. Physics had fun testing their cardboard cars. Lastly, various science students competed in STEMCon, a science/technology/engineering/math competition for our district schools.

**Physical Education**

Our Personal Development classes utilized our new badminton equipment and the unit was a huge success. The students really enjoyed learning the game, which also became a competitive sport offered at DE this school year. Personal Development classes are also finishing up the Illegal Substances unit in Health. This is one of our most important units of this class. We encourage families to discuss strategies regarding peer pressure and other influences related to this issue with their children. Our Strength and Conditioning and Lifetime Fitness classes completed their mid-semester performance testing and saw significant gains in their scores. We are extremely excited to transition to the new field house and launch our physical abilities to an even higher level. Have a great spring semester. Let's finish strong!



EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

The ESS department is gearing up to welcome incoming Freshman with transition meetings. Meeting will start at the end of March. We are also excited for our seniors who are graduating this May and moving into adulthood. We are all very proud of you. If you have any questions for the upcoming school year in regards to the Exceptional Student Services department, please call the department chair, Jessica DuBois, at 623-932-7500 X.3070.

INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE



The Spanish students have been working hard to learn Spanish. Spanish 1 students have been learning verbs and how to ask questions. Spanish 2 students have been learning the past tenses as well as how to give directions. The Spanish 3 students have been working on the perfect tenses as well as subjunctive. AP Spanish students have been preparing for the AP test in May. To make a real world connection to their learning, the Spanish 2 student made cities and gave directions around them while the Spanish 3 students worked their way through the job interview process. Coming up, the AP students will be coming up with a product and making a marketing campaign for it while the Spanish 1 students will be making a family tree. Please come see all of these awesome projects on the Night of Excellence, April 18th.

DESERT EDGE HIGH SCHOOL BY DEPARTMENT

FINE ARTS

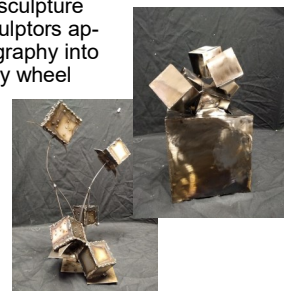
BAND: The Instrumental music department has been hard at work preparing for concerts, celebrations, and festivals. Our guitar classes have been busy composing their own music with traditional chord progressions, and our percussion ensemble has graduated to large group productions. Both are very exciting to listen to! The DE Symphonic Band performed at their February Concert in preparation for their festival performance at Desert Mountain High School (where we received a good rating), and then again at home, here at Desert Edge, for our District-wide Fine Arts celebration.

DANCE: We just concluded our auditions for the 2019-2020 school year, and are so excited about the future of our Scorpion Dance Company. We had a total of 74 girls and boys come and audition during a 3 day process of learning choreography and techniques. We compiled two amazing classes for next school year and can't wait to see what our Performance and Advanced dancers have in store. We will continue and begin new class dance choreography after Spring Break and really focus on getting ready for our Spring Concert titled "In the Spotlight". Our Spring Concert will be May 8th-10th at the Desert Edge Performing Arts Center. We also are implementing our PBL projects in our Intermediate, Advanced, and Performance dance classes. These projects will be showcased at the "Night of Excellence" on April 18th. Our Performance Dancers had the great opportunity to perform and represent our Scorpion Dance Company at the 1st Annual District Fine Arts Festival. This event was a huge success and is going to be something we look forward to year after year.

CHOIR: Desert Edge's choir program continues to build in numbers and quality. This year's group of seniors have really raised the bar showing no signs of "senioritis" and inspiring the underclassmen to keep working hard until the end of the school year. In February, eight of our seniors were invited to sing the National Anthem at the Goodyear Ballpark for a spring training game. Many upper level choir members are in rehearsals for "Beauty and The Beast" which will open April 11th and run through April 13th. The District, along with our fabulous Boosters, recently held a Fine Arts Festival at Desert Edge which included dance, choir, theater, band and artists from all of our schools. DE Concert Choir has been invited to perform at a conference for School Superintendents at the end of March and last, but not least, we are working towards our Senior Honors Choir Concert (May 1 & 2 @ 7:00 PM) which will prove to be one of our best yet! Hope to see you there. If you have any questions, please email me at alowe@aguafria.org

VISUAL ARTS: Drawing/Painting/Foundations. Students in Mr. Galto's Fundamentals classes have been working on the foundations and elements of art, which included projects that utilized various mediums including charcoal, oil pastels, graphite, and colored pencil. Various students from these classes also saw some of their work displayed at the first Agua Fria High School District Fine Arts Showcase. Students were also introduced to easel drawing and were given time slots in which they utilized a different drawing perspective and were encouraged to draw using movement from the shoulder, rather than the wrist. Drawing and Painting 1 students also utilized various mediums and were encouraged to refine skills that they learned from previous Fundamentals classes. These students also enjoyed seeing their artwork displayed in the Fine Arts Showcase. Drawing and Painting 2 students worked on a collaborative mural project where they had to work in teams to brainstorm, design, and implement a final drawing for a large-scale wall mural. After completion of the mural, these students were also chosen to compete in the VANS Custom Culture shoe design contest. A high honor in which they were 1 of only 500 schools nationwide selected to participate. With real world applications, students are learning to set clear goals, create transparency, decide what will be accomplished, recognize their accomplishments, focus on processes (mapping things out), track their work visually, and finally, learn to effectively communicate with one another in a dedicated place. Students will also work on a cross collaborative project that involves both Art and Physics. With a grant provided through APS, students will explore scale and proportion, the theory of color, and how physics provides relatable ways to see the world through both.

Students will finish out the year with new challenges that will focus on refining their skills, learning and pushing the limits of various mediums, creating digital portfolios, and showcasing their work at Desert Edge's Night of Excellence. This is an exciting time to be an art student at Desert Edge, and through the Conservatory of Fine Art, students have access to quality programming, valuable time with teachers who are also working artists, and excellent materials that are helping prepare them for success outside of the classroom. Sculpture. All sculpture classes are focusing on applying design principles to their sculptures. During the third quarter student ceramic sculptors applied principles of rhythm and pattern to their personality coil pots. They included a power word to integrate typography into their design. There is a lot of expression in their designs. The other half of the class, focused on developing pottery wheel skills, by developing functional sculpture such as cups and bowls. The goal for the project is symmetry. All of the students demonstrated growth throughout the third quarter. Metal Sculpture. Metal sculpture students have learned many skills. First they focused on safety and then learned basic welding, cutting, and grinding skills. Their first project was to create 5-7 light steel cubes and then apply a design principle to their cubes to arrange into a sculpture. Please take a moment to look at their sculptural compositions. They are proud students.



THEATRE: The Theatre Dept. has had an exciting quarter with the Theatre I students just finishing their Historical Theatre project/performances. Focusing on Greek Theatre, Elizabethan Theatre, Russian Theatre, Commedia dell'Arte, Kabuki and Vaudeville, the students culminated their projects with Benchmark performances in each style. The Theatre II students ended the quarter with their Benchmark partner scenes and Theatre III developed an original piece to be created for elementary age students. Their original tales offer a kind of Fairy-tale Mash-Up including *The Mystery of the Missing Candy House where Aurora & Midas work as detectives to solve the case ... (hint: it was Hansel & Gretel).* *The Tale of 1000 Wishes where two orphan girls stumble upon a Genie's lamp and The Tale of the 8th Dwarf featuring Stumpy (Think 6'3" dwarf!!).*

DE's Cutting Edge Theatre is in the throes of rehearsals for Disney's BEAUTY & THE BEAST. The cast did a "preview" at the AFUHS Arts Festival and the feedback was phenomenal. The cast of 45 are an amazing group of talented and creative young people who are showing incredible maturity & dedication in their pursuit of Thespian excellence. We hope to see everyone at DE April 11-13th for this incredible production!

CALENDAR

March

25-29-Library Week

26-Blood Drive

April

1-AZMerit Test, Reading

2-AZMerit Test, Writing

3-AIMS Science

6-Prom

9-Parent Workshop

10-Early Release

11-13 Spring Musical

15-16-AZMerit Test, Math

18-Scorpion Night of Excellence

19-No School

25-Dodgeball

30-Band Concert

May

6-16-AP Testing

1-Senior Graduation Meeting

1-2 -Choir Concert

8-10-Dance Show

14-16-Senior Finals

16-Senior Awards Night

17-Senior Checkout

18-Graduation, State Farm Stadium

21-23-Finals

Please visit www.aguafria.org/dehs for the most up-to-date calendar information

Prom

Come One, Come All to the Greatest Prom on Earth!
Prom 2019, inspired by the birth of the show business, embodies the glitz and glamour of the circus. Prom will be hosted at Because Event Space in Phoenix, on Saturday, April 6th from 7-11 PM. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Children's Cancer Network on behalf of Desert Edge High School. Ticket information can be found on our website, aguafria.org/dehs or by contacting the Bookstore at 932-7500 extensions 3017/3018. **Please remember all student fees owed must be paid in full in order to purchase a prom ticket.**

GRADUATION

Graduation is fast approaching and we have already had our first meeting with our seniors. The ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 18th, at 1:00 p.m. at State Farm Stadium. For all the details on this special occasion, please visit our website and look for "Graduation 2019" under the Quick Links.

Book Fair March 25-29

March 25 through 29, the Library is sponsoring a book fair through the Phoenix Book Company. Students will visit the book fair during their English class, and also have an opportunity to visit 15 minutes before and after school, as well as during Power Hour.

Purchases at the book fair can be made with card and cash only, checks will not be accepted. If cash, please only smaller bills; we won't have a lot of change available.

Come to the Book Fair!

March 25 through 29

Innovation Lounge / 7:45 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you there!

