

DEHS SENIOR COMMENCEMENT SPEECH GUIDELINES

What are the commencement speech topics?

- **Past Speech:** This speech is reflective and looks back over your time at DEHS - events, happenings, moments remembered, good times, bad times, fun times, and/or sad times. Most of all you will give your classmates lessons learned, themes covered and appreciation for the people and moments that have led up to this day at Desert Edge High School.
- **Future Speech:** This speech looks forward to the possibilities after you and everyone else in the Class of 2020 leave DEHS. Speak to the possible opportunities and challenges, hopes and fears, blessings and pitfalls ahead as you and your class move onward and pursue your goals and dreams. Most of all, you shall inspire your classmates to move forward, confidently, into the future.

What are the guidelines for the speeches?

- 2 to 3 minutes in length when spoken.
- Positive and ceremonial in nature.
- Pertaining to the entire graduating class, not individuals.
- Utilizing formal language appropriate to a momentous occasion.
- School appropriate, remembering that families are in attendance at the ceremony.
- Not mentioning specific teachers, faculty or staff at DEHS.
- Students can submit both a past and future speech, but will only be chosen to deliver one.

Who is eligible to submit a speech for possible audition?

- Any current senior who is allowed to attend graduation is eligible to submit a speech.

What is the process?

- Students who wish to give a speech at graduation need to submit a typed copy of the speech to Mrs. Robinson, The Principal's Secretary, in the front office by 3 p.m., Monday, March 16, 2020. This is the day we return from Spring break.
- **Each speech needs a cover page with the name of the senior, The Title of the Speech and the category of the speech.** (Past or Future) Your name should NOT appear anywhere else on the speech except on the cover sheet.
- An initial screening for appropriate content and quality will be done through the office.
- The speeches will then be reviewed anonymously by a Staff Committee that will rate them on content and quality by Monday, March 23.
- Depending on the quality and number of appropriate entries, the students who write the top speeches in each category may be invited to audition before a faculty panel on Wednesday, March 25.
- Students will be informed if they are speaking by Friday, March 27.