Welcome to Desert Edge High School!

Home of the Scorpions

Colors: Copper, Silver, and Black

Student Enrollment: 1700+
The Team

• Julie Jones  Principal
  jjones@aguafria.org

• Talmadge Tanks  Assistant Principal
  (Students A - G)
  ttanks@aguafria.org

• Jason Linn  Assistant Principal
  Athletic Director
  (Students H - M)
  jlinn@aguafria.org

• Dan Grumbling  Assistant Principal
  (Students N - Z)
  dgrumbling@aguafria.org
Administrative Assistants

• Alicia Robinson          Principal’s Assistant
  623-932-7500 x 3001
  arobinson@aguafria.org

• Kelly Greenwell         Assistant Principal’s Assistant
  623-932-7500 x 3014
  kgreenwell@aguafria.org

• Michelle Keanini        Athletic Director’s Assistant
  623-932-7500 x 3030
  mkeanini@aguafria.org
Counselors Assigned to Students by Last Names

- Bobby Vernier  
  rvernier@aguafria.org  
  Students A-D

- Charlotte Bethel  
  cbethel@aguafria.org  
  Students E-H (504)

- Kim Sears  
  ksears@aguafria.org  
  Students I-M

- Irma Padilla  
  ipadilla@aguafria.org  
  Students N-R (ELL)

- Ashley Hurley  
  ahurley@aguafria.org  
  Students S-Z

  - Guidance Clerks
    - Debra Fahleson  
      dfahleson@aguafria.org  
      932-7500 x 3013
    - Matreia Gentry  
      mgentry@aguafria.org  
      932-7500 x 3000
Parent Resource Center

Parent Involvement & Community Relations Specialist. 1 stop shop for all parent questions!!

- Colleen Koblinski
- ckoblinski@aguafria.org
- 932-7500 x 3160
Special Education Services

- Please contact our ESS department to provide your student’s IEP/504 information to us if you have not already been contacted.

- We do not automatically get information from your elementary schools.
Special Education Services

• Jessica DuBois
  – Exceptional Student Services Director
  – jdubois@aguafria.org 932-7000 x 3070

• Licette Gabiou
  – Exceptional Student Services Clerk
  – lgabiou@aguafria.org 932-7500 x 3095
College & Career Center

• Jim Cravens
  Career Specialist
  jcravens@aguafria.org
  623-932-7500 x 3032

• College/Career Options
• College Application Assistance
• FAFSA
• Campus Tours/Visits
• Scholarships
• Military
Desert Edge’s Vision and Motto

“All Students College and Career Ready”

We “R” DE!
(Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships)
Desert Edge is a Title I School

• Schools with large concentrations of low-income students will receive supplemental funding to assist in meeting students’ educational goals.

• For a school to qualify for Title I funds, at least 40% of students must enroll in the free and reduced lunch program.

• Currently DE has 46% of its student population participating in the free and reduced lunch programs qualifying it for school-wide funding.
Title I

• How the Title I funds are used primarily rests with Desert Edge. However, there are guidelines that must be followed regarding school spending.

• Desert Edge has used Title I funds for:
  – improving curriculum
  – additional instructional resources
  – counseling resources
  – parental involvement center
  – staff and program improvements.

• As a result, Desert Edge has been able to bring valuable resources and supports (that it would not normally have) to its students, teachers, and parents.
Desert Edge’s Academic Recognitions

• A+ School of Excellence 2016 (up for renewal)
• Washington Post Index Challenge - America’s Most Challenging High Schools 2015 - 2018
• US News and World Report – AZ Top 100 Best High Schools in America 2019
• Ascend Math Gold Medal School 2016
• Beat the Odds Institute Gold Medal 2019
• 9 Million Dollars in Scholarships – Class of 2019
• 360 Advanced Placement Exams 2019
Academic Programs

• Signature Programs
  – Conservatory of Arts and Design
  – Agriculture

• Advanced Placement
• Honors
• Edge Academy/Standards-Based Labs
• AVID
• Science/STEM
• Math
• English
• Physical Education
• Social Sciences
• Fine Arts
• International Languages
• Career & Technical Education (CTE)
• Special Education

Please note: There are fees for specific courses. Please check the course fee list in the course description book.
Advisory

The purpose of Advisory is to ensure that every student feels a sense of belonging to a familiar peer group and has at least one adult on campus that knows them well and helps them to navigate through high school successfully and graduate ready for college, career, and life.
Bookstore

• Bookstore Manager
  – Natalie O’Neal
  – noneal@aguafria.org
  – 623-932-7500 ex 3017

• Online payment is available.
For bus information this year and for years to come we will be utilizing a smart phone application. It is called "Edulog Parent Portal" and can be found on the Google Play Store for Android devices or the Apple Store for iPhone Devices. The app will allow parents to track their students' bus in real time as well as allow us to send out push notifications for anything that happens with the bus (Bus running late due to mechanical issues, traffic, road construction, etc.). All you need to register for the app is a valid email address and your students 5 digit District ID number, attached to this email you will find a pdf document with step by step instructions on how to register once you download the app. Even if you used the app for the 2019-2020 school year you will need to re-register for the 2020-2021 school year. We are REQUIRING all students to be registered on the parent portal app this year in order to receive transportation. We are using the parent portal registrations as a way to easily track how many students plan on using our buses this year. If you run into any complications in the registration process please feel free to contact the Districts Route Coordinator, Avery Sponsler, in the Transportation department by Phone: 623-932-7023 or Email: Asponsler@aguafria.org
Free and Reduced Price Meal Household Applications

• Free and reduced price Meal Benefit Applications will be sent to you and can also be found online at ”The Parent Hub” at www.aguafria.org.

• Students who participate in the meal assistance program last year, within the Aqua Fria School District, are eligible for the same benefits the first 30 days of the new school year ONLY.

• All students must submit a new application by September 18, 2020 to continue receiving benefits, if eligible. If a new and complete application is not received by September 18, 2020 students will pay the full meal price.
Cafeteria – Payment Options
(When students return to school)

• When a student is enrolled in school they are given an ID number from the school’s front office that they will keep throughout their time at AFUHSD.
• Students will utilize their ID number to purchase their daily meals and a la carte items.

• Parents can add money to their student’s account in three different ways:
  1. **Cash**: Students may buy meals with cash or add cash to their account in the cafeteria.
  2. **Check**: Students may bring a check with their student ID# and current phone number on the check to the cafeteria to be added to their account.
  3. **Online**: Payments can be made at www.myschoolbucks.com using a credit or debit card. A transaction fee will be applied. Parents can also use myschoolbucks.com to view student spending and set up low balance reminders at no cost.
Cafeteria Contact Info

Barbara Duncan @ 623-932-7009
bduncan@aguafria.org
ParentVue

[https://afsd.edupoint.com/login_pxpx.aspx](https://afsd.edupoint.com/login_pxpx.aspx)

Allows Parents to check their Students:
- Grades (All reports will be online – no paper report cards)
- Attendance
- Discipline
- Schedules
- Provides Teacher Email Contacts

- Contact for assistance: [ckoblinski@aguafria.org](mailto:ckoblinski@aguafria.org)
Attendance Policy

- 9 Absences are allowed per semester (verified or unverified).
- 10th absence = students will be denied credit
- Attendance appeal hearing will be scheduled for students to re-gain credit.
- A medical note is the only documentation that excuses an absence.
- 5 Excused Tardies per semester
- Unexcused Tardies = Sweep
- To excuse an Absence, call 623-932-7501
On Campus Tardy Policy

1\textsuperscript{st}, 2\textsuperscript{nd}, & 3\textsuperscript{rd} Offenses: Logged into the system

4\textsuperscript{th}, 5\textsuperscript{th}, & 6\textsuperscript{th} Offenses: Logged into the system and assigned after-school detention.

7\textsuperscript{th} & 8\textsuperscript{th} Offenses: Logged into the system, parents called, and assigned 1 Day of Student Improvement Program (SIP).

9\textsuperscript{th} Offense: Logged into the system, parent called, assigned Saturday School.

10\textsuperscript{th} Offense: Classes closed pending parent conference and signed attendance contract.

Please Note: Student handbook will not reflect these changes.
Chronic Illness Packet

• Students who have a chronic medical condition need to contact Nancy Amore, School Nurse and School Counselor.

• Chronic illness status may exempt students from the attendance policy and avoid loss of credit.

• dgonzalez@aguafria.org 623-932-7500 x 3015
1:1 Technology

• Every student will be assigned a District-Owned Chrome Book that will **ONLY** be used by your student.

• The District will retain full ownership of all Chrome Books, equipment, and software. Chrome Books will be checked-out in August and collected in May.

• Parents may choose the District Optional Device Protection Plan for $30.00 a year.

• All students are required to have a district provided device. Students cannot bring their own laptops/tablets.
School Community Communication

- Student Handbook
- Email dialer
- Phone dialer
- DE Website
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Remind (instructions in packet)
- Twitter (@PrincipalJJJones)
- Twitter (@DesertEdgeHS)
- ParentVue
- School Mailers
- Principal Student Advisory Council
- Site Council Meeting
- Booster Clubs
Parent Communication

Parents with Academic, Athletic, Extra-Curricular, or Teacher Concerns should follow the Chain of Command:

1<sup>st</sup>: Contact Teacher, Counselor or Coach
2<sup>nd</sup>: Contact Assistant Principal
3<sup>rd</sup>: Contact Principal

The expectation is calls/emails will be returned within 24 hours.

For a concern involving your child’s immediate safety, please call:

623-932-7500
How to Help Us Help Your Student Be Successful

• Be involved in your Teenager’s life
• Do not believe everything you hear - Ask Questions
• Check ParentVue Regularly and Communicate with Teachers
• Check your Student’s Social Media Accounts
• Help Develop your Student’s Coping Skills
• Hold your Student Accountable