

Mrs. Julie  
Jones  
Principal

Desert Edge High School  
"We "R" Desert Edge"

RIGOR, RELEVANCE, and RELATIONSHIPS

Mr. Talmadge  
Tanks  
Assistant  
Principal

Mr. Dan  
Grumbling  
Assistant  
Principal



Mr. Jason Linn  
Assistant  
Principal/  
Athletic  
Director

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Dear Parents of the Class of 2020:

We would like to share some important information with you regarding preparations for your student's upcoming graduation and ask that you discuss these details with your son or daughter. Our graduation will be held on **Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.** at State Farm Stadium located at 1 Cardinals Drive, Glendale, AZ 85305.

#### Academic Standing

It is important that each student completes all necessary coursework in order to pass all classes to fulfill graduation requirements. If you have any questions about the requirements for graduation or your student's status, please contact the guidance department at 623-932-7500 ext. 3013.

#### Bookstore Account

All Chromebooks, textbooks, library books, and athletic uniforms must be returned prior to graduation or a fee will be assessed, and all fees on the account must be paid. **Students will not be permitted to march in the graduation ceremony if he/she has outstanding fees. In addition, diplomas will not be released until all outstanding obligations have been resolved.** For more information regarding bookstore accounts, please contact our Bookstore at 623-932-7500 ext. 3017.

#### Diplomas

Diplomas are legal documents and as such, will be printed in the student's legal name as it appears on their birth certificate. Graduates will only receive a diploma cover during the commencement exercise. Diplomas can be picked up at the school Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> -Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. in the registrar's office.

#### Caps & Gowns

Previously ordered caps & gowns will be delivered to seniors during lunch at the school on Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. **Students will not be permitted to march in the graduation ceremony without a school approved cap & gown.** If your student has not ordered a cap & gown, do not delay and order from the Jostens recommended website, [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com). Availability is on a first-come, first-served basis. If you have any questions, please contact Jostens directly at 602-765-7227.

#### Senior Honors Awards Ceremony

We are extremely proud of the academic accomplishments of our seniors. We will hold a special ceremony on **Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>** in the Desert Edge auditorium at 6:00 p.m. If your student is being recognized for an award or scholarship, they will receive an invitation; however, all seniors and their families are welcome to attend. The attire for this evening is professional business attire. If your student has received a scholarship or award, please provide documentation to Mr. Jim Cravens, no later than Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. If you have questions, you may reach him at 623-932-7500 ext. 3032.

### Graduation Speeches

If you would like to submit a speech for consideration to be included as part of the graduation ceremony, please see Mr. Grumbling or Mrs. Robinson in the administration office. Speeches will need to be turned in by Monday, March 16th for review and selection.

### Graduation Rehearsal and Senior Checkout

Graduation rehearsal is **mandatory** for all seniors. Seniors must attend practice May 15th at 7:15 a.m. in the school gym. **Students who do not attend graduation rehearsal will not be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony. Late arrival may be considered non-attendance by the administration.** Then, a final, **mandatory**, one-on-one meeting with counselors to be cleared for graduation is from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. As graduates are cleared by their counselors they are invited to attend the Senior Breakfast that will be taking place in the auxiliary gym from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

### Graduates Arrival for Graduation

Graduates will receive specific arrival details at a later time and the Desert Edge website will always have the most up-to-date information. **Students who are late will not be permitted to take part in the commencement exercises.** Graduates must come completely prepared for the ceremony with cap, gown, and any approved honors cords or sashes. No other items, including purses, backpacks, cameras, or food and drink will be allowed as we will not be able to secure these items.

### Dress Code

**School dress code is enforced!** Due to the size of the stadium, there will be a lot of walking required for graduates. Please make sure you are wearing comfortable shoes. **Ladies** are expected to wear a dress, skirt or long dress pants with a blouse, and dress shoes. **Gentlemen** are expected to wear dark-colored dress slacks, a shirt with a collar, tie, dark-colored dress socks, and dress shoes. The cap must be worn straight, level and pulled down slightly on the forehead. Tassels are to be worn **on the left side**. Caps & gowns are not to be altered in any way, i.e. writing, emblems, insignias or decorations on them. Administration will have the final decision regarding appropriate attire. Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to Administration at 623-932-7500 ext. 3001.

### Guest Seating and Parking

There are no limitations for seating at State Farm Stadium. Guest parking information will be communicated as it becomes available. **Attendees will not be permitted to bring balloons, glass vases, or containers.** At no time will guests be allowed to assemble outside the graduate gate area. All State Farm Stadium policies are expected to be followed while on their premises.

### Photography/Video Recording

Duke Photography will be taking a close-up photograph of each graduate receiving their diploma and we are in the process of securing video services. Ordering information will be communicated to the graduates in May.

Any new information regarding the venue will be communicated via email and the school website. For the latest graduation information please visit [www.aquafria.org/dehs](http://www.aquafria.org/dehs), select the Parent Student Resources tab, and Graduation 2020 from the drop-down menu. We look forward to celebrating our Class of 2020!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Julie Jones  
Principal