

**2014-15 DESERT SKY STUDENT HANDBOOK**  
**PARENTS & STUDENTS: PLEASE MAKE SURE AND READ THIS ENTIRE HANDBOOK,**  
**SIGN ALL FIRST DAY FORMS AND RETURN FORMS TO YOUR CHILD'S FIRST HOUR TEACHER. THANK YOU!**

**INTRODUCTION**

**WELCOME, DESERT SKY THUNDERBOLTS!**

Desert Sky Middle School is your school, and we want you to enjoy it, benefit from it, and protect it for yourself and others. Your school is a partnership of students, faculty, staff, and parents. We all work together to have the BEST middle school in the state of Arizona. Your participation in classes, clubs, sports, school government, and all activities is important to this partnership. We need your help to continue our tradition of excellence in academics, sports, clubs, and student government. Join our winning school! As a citizen of Desert Sky, it is your duty to know about the privileges and responsibilities expected of each student. These guidelines for good citizenship have been established for the benefit and welfare of the entire campus - students, faculty, and staff. This handbook contains most of the information you need to know to make you a responsible student. When there is new information for your handbook, it will be distributed and discussed in your homeroom class. It is your responsibility to BE AWARE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS HANDBOOK and keep your handbook up to date. Your suggestions for change or improvement are welcome. Take your ideas to a staff member or the student council. This is your school, get involved and have a successful, happy year!

**DESERT SKY MIDDLE SCHOOL IDEALS AND BELIEFS**

We are committed to creating meaningful relationships and a community of kindness.

Teaching and learning are standards-based, rigorous and relevant.

We will demonstrate transfer of learning to new situations and disciplines.

Student achievement will increase through collaborative continuous improvement.

**DESERT SKY MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

Desert Sky Middle School will prepare all students to be active, productive and successful problem solvers in our ever changing world.

**DESERT SKY MIDDLE SCHOOL THUNDERBOLTS REACHING FOR EXCELLENCE**  
**THREE-WAY PLEDGE FOR QUALITY EDUCATION**

**SCHOOL PLEDGE:** We understand the importance of the school experience to every student and our role as educators and role models. Therefore, we agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of our ability:

1. Provide the opportunity for students to learn the necessary concepts
2. Strive to be aware of the individual needs of the students
3. Communicate with parents regarding student progress

**STUDENT PLEDGE:** I realize that my education is important. I know I am the one responsible for my own success. Therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Complete and turn in homework on time  | 5. Maintain required attendance and be on time to all classes         |
| 2. Arrive at school on time every day unless I am ill                                     | 6. If I must be absent, I will bring a note when I return             |
| 3. Be responsible for my own behavior   | 7. Be responsible for monitoring and maintaining my academic progress |
| 4. Be responsible for getting enough rest and eating a nutritious breakfast before school |   |

**PARENT PLEDGE:** I understand that my participation in my child's education will help his/her achievement and attitudes; therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

1. Provide a quiet place to study every night
2. Attend Open House, Parent-Teacher Conferences and other school events
3. Support the school positively and actively
4. Monitor my child's progress regularly and contact the school with questions and concerns
5. Limit my child's television time
6. Encourage my child to complete ALL homework assignments
7. Encourage my child to read 30 minutes every day
8. Encourage my child to attend and be on time to all classes
9. Encourage my child to get proper rest and nutrition for the best school performance

**ABSENCES, ACADEMIC POLICIES, CAMPUS POLICIES AND SERVICE,**  
**DISCIPLINE, GENERAL INFO, SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, STUDENT RECOGNITION, ETC.**

**ABSENCES:** At Desert Sky, we are concerned when your child misses classroom time. Your child needs to be in the classroom to participate in the educational process. We ask your cooperation in scheduling appointments outside of the school day, if at all possible. Desert Sky's school hours are from 8:15 AM to 3:00 PM. **Students need to be in attendance at least one-half of the school day to be eligible to participate in or attend extra-curricular activities.**

➤ **Absence Line:** Parent/guardian must call the absence line at 602-467-6590 **within 24 hours to excuse all absences.** This line is available 24 hours a day, so you may call and leave your information as soon as you know that your child will be absent.

➤ **Automatic Attendance Calling System:** If your child is reported absent when attendance is taken and you have not called to excuse the student by 8:30 AM on the day of the absence/tardy, the student will be marked **unexcused** and you will receive a phone message from the principal at approximately 10:15 AM on the day of the absence/tardy instructing you to have a parent/guardian call our attendance line at 602-467-6590 to let us know the reason for the absence/tardy. Please make sure that we have your correct phone number on file - the number you list as your home phone number is the number that the computer considers the primary phone number and is the one that all attendance messages and other important informational messages will call. If you want to have your cell phone listed as the primary phone number, you need to list that number as your home phone number on the pink emergency form that you received in the first day packets.

➤ **Signing Out Your Child:**

1. For the safety of our students, **YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO SHOW PICTURE IDENTIFICATION AT THE TIME OF CHECK OUT.**

➤ **Tardies:** Parent/guardian must call the absence line at 602-467-6590 **within 24 hours to excuse all tardies.** If your student is arriving from a medical appointment, please provide documentation showing date and time of the appointment. District disciplinary procedures will be followed for tardy infractions. Truancy guidelines apply for unexcused tardies beyond the first class period of the day. When a student is tardy, we will send a note home to the parent with the student and our Automatic Attendance Calling System will leave a message at the home/primary phone number. Upon a student's 3<sup>rd</sup> unexcused tardy, the student could be issued either 2 lunch detentions or 1 after school detention; the 6<sup>th</sup> unexcused tardy could equal 4 lunch detentions or 2 days after school detentions, and 9 unexcused tardies could equal 1 day of on-campus suspension.

➤ **Truancies:** Per Arizona Revised Statutes, Section 15-803, a "truant child" means a child who is between the ages of six and sixteen who is not in attendance at a public or private school during the hours the school is in session. "Habitually Truant" is defined as a child who is unexcused five school days or absent ten percent of the school year (18 days). You will be notified by mail and/or phone if your student is reaching the "habitually truant" status or has been referred to the Maricopa County CUTS program. **The CUTS fine is \$50.00.** If your student has a chronic medical condition that will affect his/her attendance, you must meet with the school nurse and provide documentation from your child's doctor that your child might miss more than 18 days of school for this medical condition. District disciplinary procedures will be followed for truancy infractions.

**AFTER-SCHOOL DANCES:** Several times during the year, various clubs sponsor dances to promote school spirit. Parents need to be aware that school busses are not provided to transport students home following the dances. Students need to be picked up immediately at 5:00 PM; any student who is removed or picked up late may not be allowed to attend the next dance. **School-wide dress code will be enforced at all dances.** Students are not allowed to change clothes for a dance. Students need to stay for the entire dance and will not be allowed late entry. Inappropriate/suggestive dancing and/or gestures are not allowed.

**ASSEMBLIES:** Assemblies are a regularly scheduled part of the curriculum and, as such, are designed to be educational as well as entertaining experiences. They provide one of the few opportunities in school to learn formal audience behavior. Regardless of the type of program, courtesy demands that the student body be respectful and appreciative. In live entertainment, unlike radio, television, or movies, the performers are very conscious of their audience. Talking and whispering are discourteous. Whistling, stamping of feet, and booing are not allowed. Cheering is appropriate only at pep assemblies. Students are not to bring books, notebooks, hats, purses, or personal belongings to assemblies. School discipline procedures will be followed for inappropriate behavior.

**AUTOMATIC CALLING SYSTEM:** Throughout the year, you will be receiving a variety of phone messages to let you know of important upcoming events or other important information that parents need to know. These calls will be made after 5:30 PM when school is not in session. Please listen to the entire message so that you do not miss important information that you need to know.

**BICYCLES:** Many students ride their bikes to and from school. **As with other personal items brought to the Desert Sky campus, we cannot accept responsibility for the safety of bikes throughout the school day.** Although kept to a minimum, vandalism and theft have occurred in our bike areas, so please be aware. The following rules are to be observed by all bike riders entering and leaving school:

1. Students who arrive on bicycles must use the bike rack.
2. **Students must provide chains/locks AND each bicycle must be locked individually.**
3. In traveling to and from school, all city ordinances concerning bicycle safety must be observed. A serious injury to yourself can be prevented through observation of these rules. Students who violate city and school bicycle guidelines will jeopardize their privilege of bringing a bike to campus.
4. **Students are to walk their bikes across 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue/Grovers and must continue to walk to their designated bike rack area. Upon dismissal, a similar procedure is to be followed.**
5. Students attending any after school functions (i.e., dances, detention, sporting events, etc.), must park their bikes in the west bike rack only.
6. **The school is not responsible for theft of bicycles, bicycle parts or damage while bicycles are parked in the rack.**
7. Bike riding, skateboarding, rollerblading, and skating on "Heeley" shoes are not allowed on school grounds at any time.
8. Motorbikes are not permitted on school grounds according to the Vehicle Code.

**BOLT CHAMPS (Students of the Month):** Each department and exploratories choose one student each month to receive a certificate and honorable mention on announcements. They also receive a front-of-the-lunch-line pass for two for a month. At the end of the year, Students of the Year are chosen by each department, music, PE, athletics and for having perfect attendance or being on the Principal's List all four quarters. Each Student of the Year receives a \$25 gift card.

**BUS TRANSPORTATION:** Students in grades 7 and 8 who live more than 1 1/2 miles from school will be provided regular school bus transportation to and from school. Students must ride the busses assigned to them. **APPROVAL TO RIDE A DIFFERENT BUS FOR ANY REASON WILL BE DENIED. If you normally do not ride the bus, you may NOT ride a bus for any reason.**

**CAFETERIA INFO:** All students are expected to adhere to the following guidelines so that all members of the community may have a clean and safe lunch period:

1. Only 3<sup>rd</sup> hour lunch students are allowed to bring books, backpacks or other materials to lunch; 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> hour lunch students may not.
2. Students will remain in line in an orderly manner (no cutting, pushing, yelling, etc.). This includes students that need change.
3. Money should be put in a student's account in the cafeteria before school begins.
4. Do not use another student's ID number. If you have forgotten your ID number or money, wait in line and food will be provided.
5. No food shall leave the cafeteria, including snacks. The only exceptions are clear water bottles containing water. All other beverages will be consumed in the cafeteria.
6. When you have finished eating, clean up your area and throw away trash in the trashcans near the exits.
7. Students are to use the restrooms in the cafeteria during lunchtime. Once lunch is completed, all students are to walk to the designated playground area for the remainder of the lunch period.
8. Treat all staff respectfully. This includes cafeteria, maintenance, and monitoring employees.
9. Students are not to return to the inner campus unless they have a pass.
10. Campus disciplinary procedures will be followed for those students who choose not to meet the cafeteria expectations. Lunchtime is a time for all community members to relax and enjoy a meal. Thank you for supporting our team.

➤ **Prices:**

\* **BREAKFAST: \$1.25**

\* **LUNCH: \$2.50**

\* **REDUCED MEAL PRICES AVAILABLE FOR BREAKFAST AND LUNCH**

\* **FREE & REDUCED MEAL APPLICATIONS WILL BE SENT HOME IN 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY PACKETS**

➤ **Payment Info**

1. Deer Valley Unified School District offers an online account service that allows parents to add payments directly to their student's school meal account using Visa or MasterCard for a nominal fee at [www.EZschoolPay.com](http://www.EZschoolPay.com). Payments will be posted on a secure website and will be received in the school cafeteria's computer system within minutes. Sign-up is quick, easy and secure. Students will be assured that meals will continue uninterrupted. Schools will appreciate that meal lines will move quickly and that fewer students will owe money on their meal account. The DVUSD Food & Nutrition Department strives to provide a balanced nutritional program for all students, meet USDA requirements, and provide support and options for the parents.
2. The Food and Nutrition Department will accept personal checks **only if a current name, address and phone number appear on the check.**
3. A \$15 charge will be assessed for returned checks. If an insufficient funds (ISF) check is received, further checks will not be accepted until the ISF check has been satisfied with cash or a money order. If a second ISF check is received, further checks will not be accepted for the remainder of the school year. The balance of ticket money will be frozen until the amount of the check has been satisfied.

**CELL PHONES and ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** Cell phones and electronic devices must be used in the appropriate setting. Students are allowed to use their electronic device responsibly before school, during lunch or after school. Students who are ill should follow school protocol of asking a teacher to visit the nurse, and not call for parent pick-up. Violation of this procedure will be considered electronic device misuse and will follow discipline according to the Students Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. Should a student not follow the Desert Sky expectations, the teacher could issue consequences for defiance/non-compliance. **Please remember that Desert Sky and DVUSD are NOT responsible for lost or stolen items.**

**CHARACTER COUNTS – TOP 20:** Desert Sky has used a positive behavior framework to embed our RTI-B (Response to Intervention-Behavior) process that is driven by our Top 20 philosophies. What this means is that every person, student and staff, embrace a common understanding of the importance of social emotional learning having a direct impact on student academic achievement. Our behavior expectations are defined clearly within the matrix and are published in all areas of our campus. Staff recognize students for their "star" qualities (character attributes) and are celebrated. Students recognize peers, students recognize adults and adults recognize colleagues for their character attributes. We also utilize a process flowchart to assure discipline procedures are fair and consistent. Our Top 20 Social Emotional Learning program has been instrumental in changing the culture of our school community. We encourage parents to participate in our Top 20 parent presentations that are held throughout the school year to learn more on how to speak the Top 20 language with your student and witness for yourself some positive outcomes.

**CLOSED CAMPUS:** Desert Sky's campus does not open till 7:55 AM. Once students arrive on campus, they cannot leave the campus unless a parent or guardian signs them out. A student leaving campus without permission will be considered truant and disciplinary action will be taken. In accordance with the Arizona State Law, only a person listed on the emergency card may take a student from the campus during school hours. All adult visitors must be authorized through the Main Office. **Student visitors are not allowed on campus!** We have a Drug Free School Zone, which extends 1,000 feet around campus and effects all students and visitors.

**CLUBS:** A wide variety of clubs are available for student involvement. If you have a club you want to start at Desert Sky, all you need to do is let a teacher know about it, and we'll do our best to get it started for you.

**COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE:** Each grade level is assigned a counselor. Your counselor is the person with whom you should feel free to discuss any problems that may arise. In order to see your counselor about a problem, you should go to the Counseling Office at some time other than class time and fill out a Counselor Request Form with your name and class schedule. The counseling staff is available for parent consultations at any time. Call the Main Office to talk with a counselor or to make an appointment at 602-467-6500.

**DELIVERIES FOR STUDENTS:** Students may retrieve items brought to school by checking for the items in the Main Office. It will be the students' responsibility to go to the Main Office to check for their deliveries when they have free/passing time; hopefully, this will keep interruptions in the classroom to a minimum.

- \* **Balloons are not allowed on campus as we are a latex-free campus**
- \* **Flowers and/or food items not for curricular use WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED due to class interruptions**
- \* Lunch money, lunches, homework, PE clothes, band instruments, notebooks and sports items - a note will be sent to the student to pick up the item in the main office
- \* Messages for students - **ONLY EMERGENCY** telephone messages will be taken for a student; forgetting items such as homework, lunch money, permission slips, etc., is not considered an emergency
- \* Progress reports and report cards will be put in teacher mailboxes

**DISCIPLINE: "A shared responsibility...self-disciplined people benefit all of us."**

The essence of good discipline is a respect for authority, respect for others, respect for self and respect for rules. It is self-attitude and control of behavior which begins at home, is maintained and reinforced at school and applied throughout life. It is your responsibility to obey school regulations and the school authorities who enforce them. In addition to administrators and teachers, this includes adults in authority such as lunch monitors, maintenance personnel, secretaries, substitute teachers, paraprofessionals, and other adults and staff members. Our expectation is that you will be proud of yourself, your school and your community. The kind of school we have depends upon each and every individual student and staff member. With a learning environment you can be proud that your middle school experience will nurture long lasting skills and memories. Guidelines to follow inside and outside the classroom are:

1. Students will not stop a teacher from teaching or prevent another student from learning.
2. Students will not engage in any behavior that is not in his or her best interest or in the best interest of others.

Desert Sky has established a discipline code consistent with the rights and responsibilities of all concerned. It is essential that parents and students familiarize themselves with this code and the consequences for violations. State law ARS15-341 maintains the school's authority for the conduct and well being of students from the time they leave home in the morning until they reach home in the evening. The school administration reserves the right to take action involving the student's conduct, regardless of where or when said action takes place if the student brings discredit upon the school, staff or other students.

• **Bullying:** What is bullying?

1. Name calling
2. Lying about you to get you into trouble
3. Punching or striking, slapping, biting, pushing
4. Stealing or removing things from you
5. Destroying your things



6. Stealing from you
7. Taking your friends away from you
8. Gossiping about you
9. Threatening and/or intimidating you

Speak up for yourself! If someone is bullying you, tell someone! Tell your parents, a teacher, counselor, nurse, or a friend immediately! Don't be embarrassed! The bullying may continue until you tell someone and get assistance. Always tell someone you trust and who can help you. If you can't tell them in person, then write a note explaining the situation. You should tell them what happened, who bullied you, and how. The adult will inform the school administration and an investigation will begin. Stay away from confrontations! Make sure and stay in sections of the school where there are lots of people. Remember, bullies do not want eyewitnesses around. Show that you are strong! Walk with your head high and your shoulders back, showing confidence. Body language speaks volumes and if you show strength and confidence, bullies will not hassle you. Don't give in to peer pressure or allow others to bully you into trying cigarettes, drugs or alcohol. Be your own person and make the smart decision to stay away from harmful substances!

• **Detention:** An after-school detention runs from 3:05 PM to 4:00 PM in room D0. Detentions may be assigned by teachers, administrators, lunch monitors, and all other staff members. Students assigned detentions must complete all detentions assigned to them. Failure to show on an assigned day without a parent signed excuse/phone call will result in reassignment to the Study Center and the assigned detention must still be served. **Parents may not change scheduled detentions due to conflicts with extra-curricular activities.** A student may be placed in the Study Center depending on the nature of the infraction.

• **On-Campus Reassignment Center (OCR):** This program is designed to provide strictly structured supervision to those students who, by their behavior, have indicated a lack of self-discipline and/or disruption to the orderly conduct of the classroom or the school. During the period of reassignment, three objectives are enacted:

1. To serve as a consequence for unacceptable behavior.
2. To help students become aware of the control they have over their own behavior and of how their behavior affects others.
3. To help students learn to make responsible decisions and effectively solve problems.

Study Center is assigned by administration and/or designee. The number of days a student serves will be determined by District Discipline Procedures. The parent/guardian will be contacted by phone and/or referral form sent home with the student. On the day(s) of reassignment, the student is responsible for obtaining all class assignments and necessary materials prior to arriving at the Study Center. The student must report to the Study Center (Room DO) at 8:15 am. The student who persistently displays acts of disobedience in the Study Center may be suspended off campus. Students will lose school privileges on the day of reassignment, i.e. dances, sports, plays, assemblies, etc.

• **Promotion Requirements:** In order to participate in the promotion ceremony, students must receive passing grades for the year in all classes and maintain positive behavior. ***Behavior resulting in a home suspension during fourth quarter may result in the loss of privilege to walk in the promotion ceremony.***

• **Student Expectations and Consequences:** The expectations and consequences listed in this handbook are consistently reinforced in every classroom. Teachers may enforce additional rules appropriate for the curriculum area.

- **The Student Will:**

1. Be on time for all classes
2. Not be in possession of unauthorized food or gum any time on campus information/signature
3. Go to classes with appropriate materials
4. Not Verbally or physically disrupt the educational process
5. Return notices sent home for parents'

- **Zero Tolerance:** The staff at Desert Sky Middle School declares that we will have a Zero Tolerance policy on weapons, dangerous instruments, violent acts, physical threats, drugs, alcohol, fighting, and gang-related incidents. This policy shall apply to all seventh and eighth grade students.

**DISCLAIMER CONCERNING PERSONAL PROPERTY:** The Deer Valley Unified School District and/or DSMS assumes no responsibility for student personal items that are lost or stolen on school property or at school sponsored events. Students are discouraged from bringing costly, fragile or irreplaceable items to school that cannot be secured by the owner.

**DRESS CODE:** When a student is dress coded, we will send a note home to the parent with the student. Upon the 2<sup>nd</sup> dress code violation, the student could receive an after school detention. *(Please refer to your Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook for dress code guidelines/specifications.)*

**EXPLORATORY CLASSES:** Exploratory classes are one semester in length. Due to the complexity of scheduling and the availability of offerings, exploratory classes are selected for the students. We offer: **BAND, CHORUS, SPANISH, TECHNOLOGY and WOODSHOP.**

**FIRE OR EMERGENCY EVACUATION:** In the event of a fire or emergency evacuation, you will hear a loud, continuous clanging bell. Follow printed instructions posted in each classroom for evacuation. These include behavior expectations of forming single file lines, proceeding without talking and reporting to designated areas, and will ensure a safe process.

**GOPEDS:** Gopeds are prohibited on all DVUSD campuses; SCHOOLS WILL NOT STORE THEM.

**GUM:** THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO GUM ALLOWED ON CAMPUS due to the potential to cause damage to carpeting, furniture, textbooks, etc., and the cost of removal from carpeting, walls and sidewalks. Use of and/or possession could result in confiscation and/or detention.

**HOMEWORK:** **If your child will be absent for more than THREE (3) days,** please email or call his/her teachers listed in the back of this handbook to obtain homework. Once arrangements with teachers have been made, homework may be picked up in the Main Office. Homework completed while a student is absent may be brought by the student when they return, or dropped off at the Main Office where it will be distributed to the appropriate teachers. Lesson plans for a week at a time are available online at <http://desertsky.dvUSD.org>.

**INSURANCE:** Student insurance is available at a nominal cost and is optional. Forms may be obtained in the Main Office. When a student insured under this plan is injured, he will be given a claim form from the office. The school merely acts as a medium in supplying the insurance and assumes no liability, either for the injury or the subsequent negotiations with the company.

**LIBRARY:** The Library is here to serve you and help make your years at Desert Sky Middle School more pleasurable and academically successful. Familiarizing yourself with the following information will help greatly.

- **Behavior:** Disruptive, disrespectful, or disturbing behavior in the library will **NOT** be tolerated and may result in loss of privileges. Food, candy, gum, drinks, etc., are not allowed in the library. Please leave the library neat and orderly.
- **Circulation:** Students may have three books checked out at a time except during May. The books circulate for a period of three weeks and may be renewed one time prior to the due date. Overdue books may not be renewed. Overdue books must be returned before you will be allowed to check out additional books. A student with books overdue by more than one week will be assigned an after-school detention. Textbooks are available for overnight check out and must be returned the following morning prior to 8:10 AM.
- **Computers:** Several computers are available in the library for student use. A sign-up sheet is located at the circulation desk. Computers must be used for academic purposes only. "Oregon Trail" may be played during lunchtime. The library offers Internet access to students with a signed Internet and E-mail User Agreement form.
- **Hours:** The library usually opens at 7:55 am and closes for the day at 3:10 pm. You may also use the library during your lunch period; however, you must stay in the library for the entire lunch period. Library passes may be issued by any of your teachers and are required during school hours.
- **Map:** Listed in the back of this handbook is a map of the Desert Sky Middle School Library. For your convenience, various areas are labeled. If you cannot locate what you are interested in or are looking for, our library aide will be happy to help you.
- **Passes:** All students need a pass to enter the library unless they are part of a scheduled class. Students must sign in and out on the clipboard and get the pass signed before leaving the library.
- **Responsibility:** AFTER CHECKING OUT A BOOK, ITS CARE IS TOTALLY YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. IF IT IS LOST, STOLEN, OR DAMAGED, YOU WILL BE CHARGED. Replacement costs are from \$9.00 for a paperback and \$25.00 for a hardback book.
- **Textbook Policy:** Textbooks are for overnight checkout and are due by 8:15 am. Students who are absent need to return their textbooks by 8:15 am the first day they return to school. Students who are late to school need to return their textbook immediately upon arrival to school. Returning textbooks on time demonstrates responsibility as well as caring for others. Please be considerate of others and get textbooks back on time. Students must have a library pass from the teacher whose class the textbook is for in order to check out textbooks prior to 3:00 PM.
  - The 3<sup>rd</sup> time a student fails to return a textbook on time, the student receives an incident report and loses textbook privileges for one week.
  - The 4<sup>th</sup> time a student fails to return a textbook on time, the student receives two lunch detentions and loses textbook privileges for two weeks.

- The 5<sup>th</sup> time a student fails to return a textbook on time, the student receives one after school detention and loses textbook privileges for one month.
- The 6<sup>th</sup> time a student fails to return a textbook on time, the student loses textbook privileges for the remainder of the school year.

**LOST AND FOUND:** You must assume sole responsibility for loss of, or damage to, your property. The school will endeavor to protect, but it is not responsible for personal properties. Small lost and found articles such as eye glasses, jewelry, wallets, etc., should be taken to the Counseling Office; all other lost and found articles should be taken to the cafeteria. Unclaimed articles will be given to charity periodically during the school year. Lost articles may be claimed before or after school or during lunches. Put identification marks on your personal belongings.

**NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY:** Students are selected for membership in Desert Sky's Chapter of National Junior Honor Society based on five criteria: scholarship, character, citizenship, leadership, and service. The student must have a grade point average of 3.7 and no discipline reports. Our NJHS students participate in many school and community activities throughout the year. Projects have included sponsoring school dances and helping with Special Olympics. Here is your opportunity to shine; reach for the stars and be part of National Junior Honor Society!

**PRINCIPAL'S LIST**

All A's  
No N's or U's  
No Incompletes



**HONOR ROLL**

B average or higher  
No C's, D's or F's  
No N's or U's  
No Incompletes

**PARKING AND TRAFFIC FLOW:** For safety reasons, when dropping off and/or picking up students, please enter in the east driveway on Grovers Avenue, follow the blue traffic flow lines, and exit through the west driveway on Grovers Avenue. Please note that limousines are not allowed to park and/or wait in our parking lot before and/or after school as it impedes the flow of traffic.

**PARENT LIAISON:** Desert Sky Middle School has a Parent Liaison whose purpose is to be an advocate for students and parents by helping bridge the gap with teachers. The Parent Liaison provides school tours and information about our school to future students and community members. The Parent Liaison is able to communicate with the school community about important information and special events in our Desert Sky Newsletter which is published on our website at dsms.dvUSD.org.

**PDA (Public Display of Affection):** PDA includes kissing and hand holding at school. **1<sup>st</sup> offense:** Teacher speaks to both students and issues a verbal warning. **2<sup>nd</sup> offense:** Teacher calls parents of both students and/or issues an incident report with a warning and shares with the students and parents what the next consequence will be if it continues. **3<sup>rd</sup> offense:** Counselors will counsel with the students. **4<sup>th</sup> offense:** Pink referral to Administrator.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION / HEALTH CLASS EXPECTATIONS:** Each student is expected to be prepared for class. For health activities, a notebook and a pen or pencil are required. For physical activities, a change of clothing is required. Generally shorts, a shirt, and tennis shoes with socks allow for the best movement. Shirts should be without zippers or buttons and have the last name of the student clearly printed across the front. Shorts should be without zippers, buttons, or belt loops and should also include the name printed on the leg. Shoes should be laced crisscross fashion to allow for a quick and efficient snug fit providing for safe movement for physical activities. During the colder months we suggest warmer clothing that allows for freedom of movement, such as sweatshirt and sweatpants. In addition, all students are expected to participate appropriately and to give a good effort each day.

**POWERSCHOOLS ACCESS:** Parents and students have their own user name and password to log on to PowerSchools, the DVUSD grades and attendance website. You may view your student's attendance and grades using this access. By clicking on the percentage listed under the grade for each subject, you will be able to see if there are any missing assignments or homework. This access will also allow you to email your student's teachers. User names and passwords will only be given to parents who present a picture ID to Desert Sky office staff.

**PROGRESS REPORTS / REPORT CARDS:** At any given time, you may contact the Counseling Office to set up a conference with any or all of your child's teachers. Twice during the school year, we have an afternoon and evening set aside for conferences. Please keep in mind that a parent/teacher conference is an excellent opportunity to "touch base" with your child's teachers. Progress reports and report cards will be hand-carried home with the students. Please mark these important dates on your calendar and discuss the grades and comments with your child. Feel free to contact the teachers with questions/concerns.

**1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER**

Progress Report - 9/10/14  
Report Card - 10/20/14

**3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER**

Progress Report - 2/9/15  
Report Card - 3/16/15



**2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER**

Progress Report - 11/17/14  
Report Card - 1/7/15

**4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER**

Progress Report - 4/21/15  
Report Cards Mailed Home on 5/29/15

**SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES: School is a healthy environment.** The nurse promotes a positive wellness environment to give each student the best possible opportunity to learn and reach their potential. The nurse is the consultant for students, parents and educational staff members concerning health issues and problems. He or she may, at times, recommend further medical follow up when a health problem is suspected.

**The Health Center** provides first aide and medical care primarily for illness or injuries that occur during the school day. It is not a primary care facility like a doctor's office. The nurse is, however, qualified to collaborate with you and your child's physician to provide an educational environment in which your child can learn and thrive. While the nurse does not make a medical diagnosis or prescribe medication or treatment, medication and treatment prescribed by a physician may be given in the Health Office.

**Disease Prevention / Immunizations:** Written proof of compliance with immunization requirements is a part of the registration process in Arizona schools. State and federal law mandates that school-age children be immunized to prevent certain diseases. If you are unsure of the requirements for immunization, see your doctor, visit the School Health Center or call the Maricopa County Health Department at 602-506-6767 or 602-263-8856 for locations of clinics and hours of operation. Immunizations are free of charge for children under the age of 18. Exemption forms are available from the nurse.

**Parent and Emergency Contacts / Health History:** Parents are required to complete Emergency Contact and Health History forms for each of their children every year. These forms contain vital information should your child become ill or injured at school. Students will be released to ONLY those persons indicated on the form. **Photo ID is required to pick up any child during the day at school.**

**Student Illness:** If a student feels ill during the school day, they should report their complaint to the classroom teacher for referral to the nurse. Students are not to contact their parents directly via cell phone regarding illness unless prior arrangements have been made with the nurse. Please keep your child home if they have fever, diarrhea, vomiting, deep cough or a potentially communicable disease. **Children with a fever of 100 degrees or more must be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications before returning to school.** If your child has been diagnosed with contagious illness, please contact the Health Center so parents of other students in the class can be notified. Please call your child's doctor for advice on an ill child. Do not send ill students to school to be evaluated by the nurse.

**Medication:** In compliance with ARS 15-344 and ARS 32-1901, over-the-counter medications are not available in the Health Center. Tylenol, ibuprofen, Calamine, Neosporin, topical or oral Benadryl, cough drops, antacids or any like remedies **are not stocked.** Students are not permitted to have medication in their possession at any time without a specific prior written arrangement with the nurse.

**Prescription medications must be in an original prescription container labeled for the student with a current date. The label must state directions that coincide with the request being made by the parent.**

Over-the-counter medications needed by students during the school day must be checked in to the Health Center by a parent/guardian. Requests must be in agreement with the manufacturer's directions or have a superseding physician's order. Herbal preparations must have a doctor's order. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to pick up any unused or discontinued medications promptly from the Health Center. At the end of the school year, any medication remaining in the Health Center will be discarded.

**PE Excuses:** Students requesting to be excused from PE must bring a note signed by their parent to the Nurse. The Nurse will then write an "excused from PE" pass for the student to take to PE. Any request for an excuse for three or more PE classes must be accompanied by a physician's written order. **All injuries requiring any type of orthopedic support or devise on campus must be reported with a medical excuse and cleared through the Health Center.**

**Chronic Health Conditions:** **If your child has been diagnosed with a chronic health condition, please contact the nurse immediately.** He or she will inform you of the DVUSD protocols/procedures necessary to ensure a healthy and safe environment for your child during the school day.

**SHARPIES / PERMANENT MARKERS:** **Sharpies and/or permanent markers are NOT allowed on campus.**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES:** At Desert Sky Middle School, Special Education Services is driven by each student's Individualized Educational Plan or IEP. Each IEP clearly identifies the goals which will be addressed. For each goal, objectives are created which are specific, measurable, and criteria-based; these are the guides that the special education teachers employ to facilitate student learning. Each IEP is reviewed on an annual basis. Because every student needs to learn the basic knowledge presented in the 7th and 8th grades, the goals and objectives written are closely aligned to those outcomes of the mainstream classes and the District curriculum guidelines. Teachers of special needs students make the necessary accommodations and adaptations of the mainstream outcomes and District curriculum guidelines in their special education classrooms.

- I. Inclusive Practices:** Desert Sky implements inclusive practices by structuring collaborative classes and small group activities so that students of all ability levels, with and without disabilities, are educated together. Instruction is differentiated to meet the needs of all students, and accommodations and modifications are made for equitable access to grade level curriculum in the least restrictive environment. Removal of students with disabilities only occurs if the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in a general classroom with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

**SPORTS:** A variety of sports are available for all students passing their classes. Desert Sky offers:

**BOYS AND GIRLS**

- Volleyball (Aug-Oct)
- Basketball (Nov-Jan)
- \*Cross Country (Aug-Oct)
- \*Track and Field (Feb-May)

**BOYS**

- Baseball (Feb-May)
- \*Wrestling (Oct-Dec)

**(\*NO-CUT SPORTS)**

**GIRLS**

- Softball (Feb-May)
- Basketball Spiritline (Nov-Jan)
- \*Wrestling Spiritline (Oct-Dec)

- **Eligibility:** In accordance with the State of Arizona's regulations and Deer Valley's Governing Board Policy, only those students deemed academically eligible may participate in extra or co-curricular activities in which competition is an integral part of the organization. Students must be passing all subjects to be eligible. Study sessions will be available for students needing assistance.
  - **AN ABSENCE OF MORE THAN 1/3 OF THE SCHOOL DAY WILL MAKE STUDENTS INELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN SPORTS OR OTHER ACTIVITIES THAT DAY ONLY. STUDENTS WHO GO HOME ILL MAY NOT RETURN TO SCHOOL TO PARTICIPATE IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.**
  - Students are encouraged to work out with their team(s) and not quit the sport even if they have a failing grade. **They will be allowed to fully participate in competitions only when they can show passing grades on mid-reports, progress reports, or report cards. Each of these grading periods determines the student's eligibility until the next grading period approximately 2 1/2 weeks later.**
  - The teacher and the coach may limit participation in a sport due to disruptive behavior and attitude.

- If a student receives a detention, in-school suspension or out-of-school suspension, the student **may not participate in or attend any extracurricular activities** including practices, games, competitions, dances, etc. Parents may **not** change scheduled detentions due to conflicts with extra-curricular activities.
- **Concussion Class:** An on-line concussion class is now required for all DVUSD students participating in sports and needs to be completed at <http://aiacademy.org/users/login/brainbook> before tryouts. If the concussion class is not completed, you will not be allowed to try out.
- **Physical:** A physical is required for all DVUSD students participating in sports and needs to be completed before tryouts. If a physical is not completed, you will not be allowed to tryout.
- **DV7-8C Athletic Conference:** Desert Sky participates in the DV7-8C Athletic Conference sports program. As part of this program, Desert Sky plays the following schools: Highland Lakes, Hillcrest, Paseo Hills, Sierra Verde, Stetson Hills, Terramar and West Wing (**please refer to the sports map in the back of this handbook for directions for the DV7-8C Athletic Conference participants**).
- **North Valley Middle School Conference:** Desert Sky participates in the North Valley Middle School Conference sports program. As part of this program, Desert Sky plays the following schools: Deer Valley Middle, Desert Mountain, Highland Lakes, Hillcrest and Sonoran Trails (**please refer to the sports map in the back of this handbook for directions, addresses and phone numbers for the North Valley Middle School Conference participants**).

**STUDENT COUNCIL:** Student Council is a leadership club on our campus. They coordinate student activities and sponsor many activities during the school year. You need to display leadership qualities, school spirit, and a willingness to work. You also need to pass all classes with at least a "C" and not receive any disciplinary referrals to be a Council member. For Student Council rules, regulations, and membership guidelines, please refer to our Student Council Constitution at [desertsky.dvUSD.org](http://desertsky.dvUSD.org).

## **STUDYING:**

### **Choosing a Place to Study**

- As much as possible, do your studying in one particular place.
- Make sure that your place of study has good lighting. Using a bright desk light in an otherwise darkened room will tire your eyes.
- Keep the top of your desk uncluttered.
- Use a firm straight chair.
- Eliminate distracting noises such as the sound of radio or television. A slight, regular background noise may help you to concentrate.

### **Effective Listening**

- Concentrate on what is being said. Don't allow noise to distract you.
- When you require clarification, ask questions.
- Recognize the feelings and style of the speaker.
- Be aware of implied meanings and ideas.
- Note main ideas and summarize key points.
- Have an open mind and be sensitive to the speaker's point of view.

### **Parents: How to Help your Child Succeed**

- Education is a partnership between school and home, and parental assistance is critical. Parental assistance and reinforcement will help insure children's success.
- Supply your child with needed classroom supplies during the school year.
- Check your child's homework and homework sheet daily until his/her study habits are established. Weekly assignments are given to students every Monday. Please review these assignments with your child.
- Arrange an appropriate study area for your child and plan a schedule for daily/weekly study. Study time should be used for review or reading when no homework is assigned.
- Seek assistance from your child's teacher, counselor, or school administrator when needed.

### **Preparing for Tests**

- Set up a special study schedule to prepare for your exams. Plan it so that everything can be covered in the available time.
- Avoid cramming. Your review should be completed well before the exam.
- Find out what kind of exam you are getting ready for (i.e., essay-type or objective) and exactly what material will be on the test.
- For each subject, make a detailed list of all the topics for which you are responsible. Arrange them in order of importance and follow this order in your review.
- Memorize essential facts and formulas.
- Make up questions that you think could be on the exam and try to answer them.
- Get a good night's rest before the exam and begin the exam day with a good breakfast.
- Be sure to wear comfortable clothing. Have a sweater handy in case it is cool in the examination room.
- Come with the equipment you will need (pen, pencil, ruler, calculator, etc.).

### **Retaining What you Have Learned**

- Each day briefly review what you have learned. In addition, conduct a weekly review in each subject.
- After reading a chapter in a textbook, listening to a lecture, or following a discussion, make a summary of it. You will discover that summarizing is an effective aid to retention.
- As soon and as often as possible, try to apply what you have learned.
- Get into the habit of reading books and articles related to what you are studying, even if such reading is not required.

### **Taking Notes**

- Write your notes in your own words rather than the teacher's.
- Listen for important facts and ideas; do not try to get down every word.

- Date your notes and, if you use a three-ring binder, number all pages. At the end of the semester you will be glad you did.
- Keep your notes neat. It is discouraging to have to study from sloppy notebooks.
- Organize your notes as soon as possible after taking them.
- Keep together all notes on one subject.

### **When to Study**

- Prepare a timetable that clearly indicates when you will study and when you will be occupied with other regular commitments or recreational activities.
- Adjust your timetable until it is just right for a particular semester or school year. Setting unrealistic goals will only discourage you.
- When doing your work, divide lengthy or difficult assignments into short, manageable units.
- After completing a unit, use a short break to reward yourself. If you sit at your desk hour after hour, your mind will start to wander.
- If certain facts or details must be memorized, do not try to memorize all of them at one time.
- When you have completed the rough copy for a written assignment, wait a day before you edit and start with the final draft.

### **Writing Essay-Type Tests**

- First, skim the whole exam and read the directions.
- Decide how much time should be allotted to each question. Let the marking scheme be your approximate guide.
- Begin with the questions that you can answer most easily. It is important to get off to a good start.
- Locate the key word in the question and answer your question accordingly. Key words are: discuss, compare, explain, contrast, list, describe, and outline.
- Read questions several times to be absolutely sure that you understand what is asked.
- Make a rough outline of the points to be included.
- Begin with a thesis or topic sentence that incorporates the key words of the question.
- Support your statements with specific examples and detailed information.
- Come to a conclusion by very briefly summing up your answer.
- Always write an answer in paragraph form unless the question specifically calls for a list.
- Number your questions exactly as they are numbered on the examination paper. For example, do not change 2 to II or ii.
- If, in answering a particular question, you run out of time, leave a gap and return to it later if time permits.
- Try to leave yourself enough time at the end to read over what you have written and to correct any mechanical errors (spelling, punctuation, etc.).

### **Writing Objective Tests**

- When confronted by a large number of questions in an objective test, do not rush through them in panic. Instead, determine how much time you can afford to spend on each question and pace yourself accordingly.
- Answer the easiest questions first; then return to the ones you have left out. Sometimes the test gives away some of the answers.
- Guess at answers only if there is no penalty for guessing.
- Be on the lookout for words that may provide a clue to the correct answer. Words like "seldom," "generally," and "tend to" often make a statement true. Words like "always," "never," and "only" are more likely to make it false.
- Before looking at the possible answers to a multiple-choice question, try to form the answer in your mind. Then, look at the choices given. Do not change an answer that comes to mind first unless you are absolutely sure that it is wrong.

**TEXTBOOKS:** When you are issued a textbook, you are responsible for it until it is turned in to the teacher. Any damage or loss is your responsibility. Report cards and school records will be withheld until the damage and replacement fees have been paid. Textbook prices range from \$10.00 to \$70.00.

**TIME MANAGEMENT:** You can increase the opportunities to do the things you want and need to do by improving on how you manage your time. Those who manage their time effectively have the same 24 hours in a day as everyone else. What they do is plan and schedule time so that they can achieve a balance in all parts of their lives as well as be successful. If you take time to organize your efforts, you can easily save 1/4 to 1/3 of your time. The trick is to develop a concrete plan for home, school, and work. Planning ahead and applying these time-management strategies will result in getting maximum value for the time you have. It will help you with your school work and will result in more free time to spend with friends and for leisure activities such as sports.

#### **At Home**

1. Begin by scheduling your time in half-hour or hour blocks.
2. Arrange your work in order of priority.
3. Spend more time on the subjects which require improvement.
4. Allow yourself time to review your work two or three days before a test or quiz.
5. When an assignment is completed, check it off in your Weekly Planner.
6. Transfer all unfinished tasks to a future date.
7. Review your past weekly schedule and make the necessary adjustments for the coming week.
8. Schedule time to review assignments and tests returned by your teacher; re-do incorrect answers.

#### **During Class**

1. Record all homework, other assignments, and test dates accurately.
2. List your homework assignments and the due dates at the conclusion of each class.

3. Write down when essays and projects are due and when tests and quizzes are scheduled.
4. Ask your teacher about any problems you encountered while doing your homework.

#### **Hints**

We all want to be successful. Success at school will open many opportunities for you in the future. Good organization is the key to success. Your own personal Desert Sky Middle School Handbook will help you manage your time efficiently and effectively.

**VISITORS:** Parents are encouraged to visit the school, however, all visitors must report to the school office upon arrival. For those who wish to visit a classroom during the school day, it will be necessary to fill out a "Permission for Visitation/Observation" form at least 24 hours in advance so as to avoid any conflicts with the school schedule; no person may enter onto school premises, including visits or audits to a classroom or other school activity, without approval of this form. In visiting a classroom, parents must realize that the teacher's first responsibility is to the class as a whole, and the teacher will be unable to converse at any length with the visitor. If a conference is desired, arrangements will be made by the teacher for an appointment with the parent either before or after school hours. No person will be allowed to conduct or attempt to conduct any activity on school premises that has not had prior approval by the principal. Anyone who is not a student or staff member of the DVUSD, and is in violation of the above listed visitor's policy, may be asked to leave the property of the district. Failure to comply with the lawful directions of district officials or of district security officers or any other law enforcement officers acting in performance of their duties, and failure to identify oneself to such officials or officers when lawfully requested to do so, will be against District regulations. Failure to obey such instructions may subject the person to criminal proceedings applicable under law (*K-2461, KI-R Arizona School Boards Association*).

**WATER BOTTLES AND/OR GATORADE BOTTLES:** Only clear water bottles are allowed on campus - **NO COLORED LIQUID BOTTLES.**

**WITHDRAWING YOUR CHILD FROM DSMS:** If you are withdrawing your child from Desert Sky, please visit the Main Office to complete all necessary documentation. Upon ID check, return of all student books and settlement of all fees, the office will provide a withdrawal certificate, a copy of the birth certificate, and other appropriate documents to the parent or legal guardian.

#### **ADE & PARC WEBSITES:**

Common Core State Standards: <http://www.parcconline.org>

In 2009, 48 states, 2 territories and the District of Columbia signed a memorandum of agreement with the National Governors Association (NGA) and Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSI). External and state feedback teams provided feedback to writing teams throughout the process. The draft of the K-12 standards was released for public comment in March 2010, and over 10,000 stakeholders commented on the draft standards, many of whom were educators.

On June 2, 2010, the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics (CCSS) were released. Building on the strength of current state standards, the CCSS are designed to be focused, coherent, clear and rigorous; internationally benchmarked; anchored in college and career readiness; and evidence and research based. For more information see [www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org)

K-12 Academic Standards: <http://www.azed.gov/standards-practices>

The K-12 Academic Standards section provides professional development, instructional resources, and information to support the development and implementation of Arizona's Common Core Standards in Mathematics and English Language Arts and Literacy in History, Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects, in addition to the K-12 academic standards in science, social studies, and educational technology.

## DESERT SKY MIDDLE SCHOOL E-MAIL ADDRESSES

### NAME

Axelrod, Eric  
Armenta, Monique  
Belliveau, Danielle  
Bondurant, Jennifer  
Boykin, Kelsey  
Brady, Melissa  
Brown, Mindy  
Cardelli, Wendy  
Conklin, Geoffrey  
Cruz, Robyn  
Culp, Julie  
Dahlberg, Elizabeth  
Day, Michael  
Dowland, DeAnne  
Espenshade, Nora  
Fasciano, Peter  
Fasula, Nancy  
Flint, Kevin  
Hiland, Lynn  
Hill, Gail  
Hirsch, Cher  
Hughes, Steve  
Jarvinen, Patti  
Kaczmarowski, Mary  
Levinson, Diane  
Looper, Michael  
McKinney, Dawn  
Miller, Cynthia  
Murphy, Penny  
Nygard, Randy  
Pawling, Dina  
Phipps, Michele  
Piotter, Jessica  
Reilly, Bill  
Resetar, Patricia  
Roberts, Mark  
Saver, Karyl  
Schofield, Dina  
Schultz, Becky  
Schwartz, JoAnn  
Tucker, Aremy  
Utyro, Keith  
Wertheim, Susan  
Whitson, Mary  
Winn, Tamera



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Deer Valley Unified School District No. 97

20402 N. 15th Avenue — Phoenix, AZ 85027

2014-15

## STUDENTS RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND VERIFICATIONS

STUDENT'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT I.D # \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT'S/GUARDIAN'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

This Acknowledgments and Verifications signature page is to be returned to each child's school by Friday, August 22, 2014.

#### **We're Going Green!**

The Deer Valley Unified School District is dedicated to contributing to a sustainable future for our planet through reducing consumption, reusing what we have and recycling what we can. This philosophy includes conserving natural resources. To support this, in lieu of printing the 2013-14 Student Rights & Responsibilities Handbook for every student and staff member in our district, DVUSD is pleased to announce that the 2013-14 handbook will be available on our website, in both English and Spanish. Simply go to [dvusd.org](http://dvusd.org) and scroll to the bottom of the page. If you don't have access to the internet, please contact your child's school to request that a printed copy of this important handbook be sent home with your child.

#### **STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND SCHOOL STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK:**

By signing this form you are acknowledging and verifying that you have read and reviewed with your child/children the Student Rights & Responsibilities handbook. As a parent in the Deer Valley Unified School District, you have the right to a quality education for your child/children. To make sure that every student enjoys that right, the District has established procedures regarding disruptive behavior. The procedures for student responsibility are designed to create an orderly environment that is safe for all students and staff. The rules are reasonable and fair and they are the same at each school. We ask that you read carefully the infractions and disciplinary actions for conduct with your child. By signing this form, you also acknowledge that the Deer Valley Unified School District will not tolerate students threatening the life of another person or threatening to cause disruption or damage to a Deer Valley educational facility. This behavior could lead to an automatic suspension and/or a comprehensive psychological evaluation before the student is readmitted to school.

#### **INTERNET AND E-MAIL USER AGREEMENT:**

By signing this form you are acknowledging and verifying that you have read and reviewed with your child/children the Internet & E-Mail User Agreement found on page 34 of the Student Rights & Responsibilities handbook. Your child's signature is also required.

Rev. 5/7/13

**NOTICE TO PARENTS REGARDING DIRECTORY INFORMATION:**

According to state and federal law, directory information may be publicly released to an institution of higher learning (community colleges, universities, trade schools) or military representatives. Directory information may consist of the student's name, address, date and place of birth, photograph, grade level, participation in extracurricular activities, weight and height if a member of an athletic team, honors and awards received, and names of parents or guardians.

Please note the following statement from the U.S. Department of Education: "Recognizing the challenges faced by military recruiters, Congress recently passed legislation that requires high schools to provide to military recruiters, upon request, access to secondary school students and directory information on those students. Both the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 reflect these requirements. In accordance with those Acts, military recruiters are entitled to receive the name and address listing of juniors and seniors in high school."

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) allows schools to disclose directory information without consent to the following parties or under the following conditions:

- School officials with legitimate educational interest;
- Other schools to which a student is transferring;
- Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
- Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
- Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
- Accrediting organizations;
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
- Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
- State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific state law.

**You are required to check one or more of the following statements:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I give permission to DVUSD to release Directory Information regarding my child for non-commercial purposes. (This includes permission for your child to participate in individual and class photos, appear in the yearbook, promoted through school and district publications for awards, special recognitions, sports and extracurricular activities.)

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not give permission to DVUSD to release Directory Information regarding my child. (Your child's photo will not be published in school or district publications such as yearbook, student newspaper, local newspapers.)

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not give permission to DVUSD to release any Directory Information regarding my child to any institution of higher education: community colleges, universities, trade schools. (High School Only)

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not give permission to DVUSD to release any Directory Information regarding my child to a military recruiter. (High School Only)

**If the school district does not receive this notification from you within two weeks of receipt of this notice, it will be assumed that your permission is given to release your child's directory information.** Please be assured that your child's safety and welfare are our primary concerns. As in the past, we will be prudent and cautious in all of our practices regarding this issue.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name Printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name Printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student I.D. #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**DSMS TARDY POLICY  
2014-15**

As we enter the start of the school year, we want to make sure that we maximize the educational time spent with your child. Please have them arrive on time to school. The first hour starts at 8:15 am. If your child is not in first hour by 8:15 am and does not have a pass from the main office or another teacher, he or she is tardy. We value the importance of the beginning of first hour as it is the class period where announcements are made, report cards and other important materials are handed out.

The following tardy policy will be enforced effective August 18, 2014:.

Any student not in Homeroom by 8:15 am will be swept to the On-Campus Reassignment (OCR) room and tardies will be recorded. A call will go home to the guardian that the student was tardy to class. Parents/Guardians have a 24-hour window to excuse a tardy. Consequences for unexcused tardies are:

- 3 unexcused tardies could result in the first referral with a consequence of 2 days lunch detention or 1 day after school detention
- 6 unexcused tardies could result in the second referral with a consequence of 4 days lunch detention or 2 days after school detention
- 9 unexcused tardies could result in the third referral to the office with a consequence of 1 day on-campus suspension

Please refer to the Parent/Student Handbook Discipline Procedures Grades 7-12 for reference. Thank you for understanding that we can maximize learning for all children when they arrive on time daily.

.....

By signing below, I understand and will follow the East Sky Middle School Tardy Policy.

Student's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

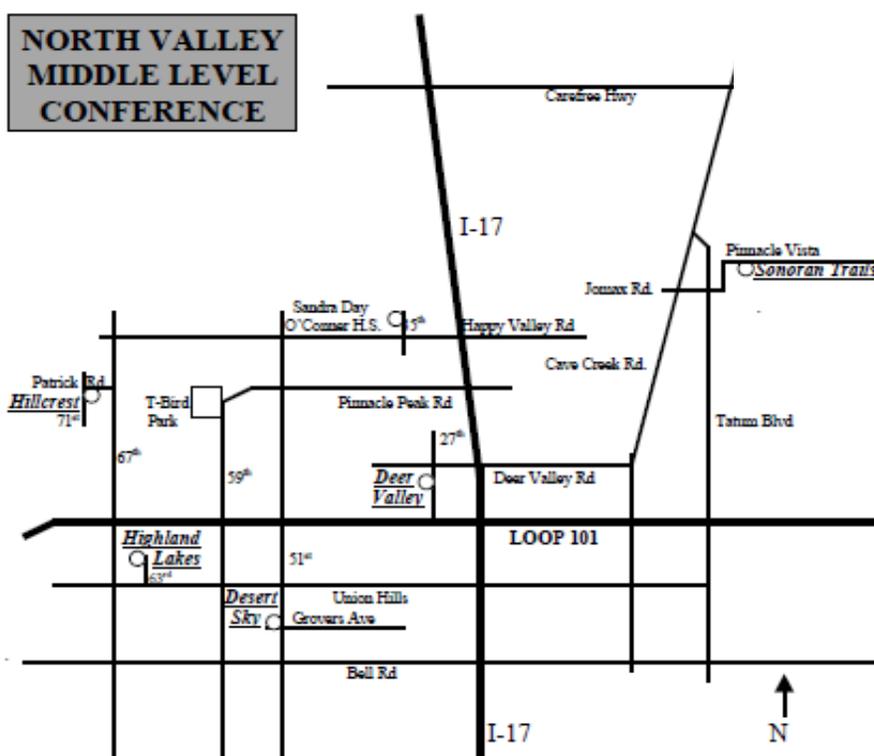
First Hour Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**NORTH VALLEY MIDDLE LEVEL SCHOOL CONFERENCE**  
**7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

DS (Desert Sky Middle)	5130 W. Grovers Avenue	602-467-6500
DV (Deer Valley Middle)	21100 N. 27 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	623-445-3300
HC (Hillcrest Middle)	22833 N. 71 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	623-376-3300
HL (Highland Lakes)	19000 N. 63 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue	623-376-4300
ST (Sonoran Trails)	5555 E. Pinnacle Vista	480-272-8600

**Directions to Sonoran Trails:** Take Loop 101 East to Tatum and go north on Tatum to Jomax Road. Take Jomax East as it curves into Pinnacle Vista. Sonoran Trails is the second school (i.e., first school is Horseshoe Trails) and it is right on the corner of 56<sup>th</sup> Street and Pinnacle Vista.



DEER VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL  
 DESERT SKY MIDDLE SCHOOL  
 HIGHLAND LAKES  
 HILLCREST MIDDLE SCHOOL  
 SONORAN TRAILS

**DV7-8C ATHLETIC CONFERENCE MAP**  
**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

Canyon Springs ●

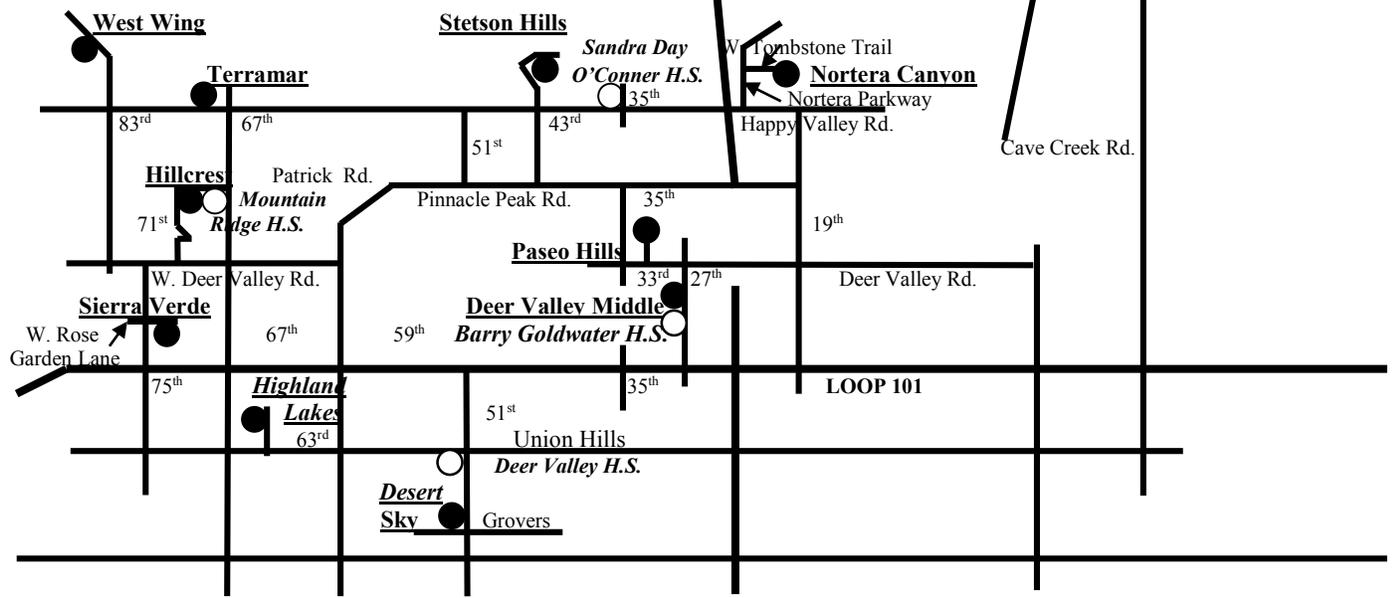
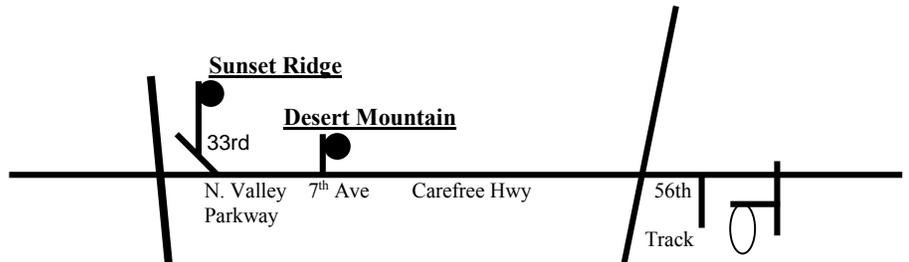
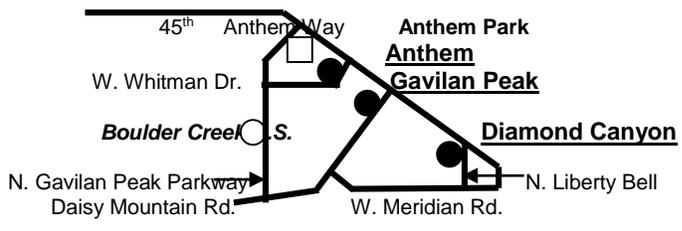
- NORTH DIVISION**
- ANTHEM
  - CANYON SPRINGS
  - DEER VALLEY
  - DESERT MOUNTAIN
  - DIAMOND CANYON
  - GAVILAN PEAK
  - SONORAN TRAILS
  - SUNSET RIDGE

- SOUTH DIVISION**
- DESERT SKY
  - HIGHLAND LAKES
  - HILLCREST
  - NORTERA CANYON
  - PASEO HILLS
  - SIERRA VERDE
  - STETSON HILLS
  - TERRAMAR
  - WEST WING

56<sup>th</sup> Dy

**Sonoran Trails**

Jomax



**Bus Lot**

Girls RR	Boys RR	E7	E6	E5	E4	E3	E2	E1
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51<sup>ST</sup>  
A  
V  
ENUE

