

Dear Skyhawk Parents and Graduates,

Congratulations to the Class of 2023!

Deer Valley High School will be holding its graduation ceremony at the State Farm Stadium on **Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**. Tickets will not be needed to attend this year's ceremony. We will also live stream the ceremony so that other family members and friends can view it. We are providing the following guidelines in order to conduct a smooth and dignified graduation. We ask that you review these guidelines and adhere to them in order for the ceremony to meet stadium requirements.

**Please keep this information for reference:**

- At the beginning of May, a PowerPoint presentation will be presented to all seniors during a SET period.
- All graduates will be required to complete Senior Checkout on **Tuesday, May 16** from 8:30-10:00 AM in the practice gym. Graduates must have all debts cleared by the bookstore, library and cafeteria. At checkout graduates will receive their immunization records, parking map for the stadium and official diploma.
- Graduation will be at the State Farm Stadium on **Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM**. Graduates and guests should arrive at the Stadium by **6:00 PM**.
- It is suggested that parents drive to the stadium with the graduate. We have been assigned the EAST parking lot and our entrance for parents and graduates will be GATE 3. A parking map with directions for both general and handicapped parking will be posted on our website and the DVUSD website. It is imperative that you follow the directions as to which side of the stadium to park at and which entrance to use. Guests will not be admitted before 6:00 PM.

**GRADUATE PROCESS**

- Gowns are to be carried in and put on after being checked in by DVHS staff.
- Graduates must wear their navy blue cap and gown.
- Graduates will be guided to enter the building at the same gate as their guests.
- At the gate, the graduates will have a separate entrance to check in with their school officials.
- Once inside, the graduates will proceed down the instructed set of stairs to the stadium floor.
- The graduates will have assigned seats and will follow teacher direction within their row/section for instructions.
- **Graduates will be seated on the main floor of the stadium in alphabetical order A-K on the right side as you face the stage and L-Z on the left side as you face the stage. Names will be read alternating right side, left side. Guests will be in the audience stands in the north end zone section. No guests will be allowed on the floor of the stadium.**
- The audience stands as the graduates enter and remains standing through the presentation of colors, National Anthem, and Pledge of Allegiance.
- An official photographer will take pictures of all graduates receiving their diplomas. Also, an official videographer will video the ceremony. Hand held video cameras will be allowed; however the stadium does not allow video camera stands. We also ask that you not leave your seat to take pictures. This policy is a courtesy to the other spectators and will be enforced by stadium security. Both the photographs and DVD are available for purchase. Information will be posted on the school website.
- Following the closing, graduates and guests will exit **GATE 3**. All participants and spectators must vacate the facility immediately.

**GRADUATE AND AUDIENCE DRESS AND DECORUM**

- Male graduates should wear dress slacks, socks and shoes, and a proper shirt with collar. Ties are preferred. Female graduates are discouraged from wearing floor-length dresses. Female graduates should wear dresses or skirts and blouses or dress slacks outfits.
- Restrooms **will have limited accessibility** for dressing/appearance purposes so please come to the ceremony ready.
- Graduates should carry their cap and gown into the stadium.
- Purses/cell phones should not be carried by graduates during the ceremony. Please leave them with family or friends.
- Caps and Gowns may not be decorated. Tassels will be worn on the right side of the cap.

## APPROVED REGALIA:

- Graduates will wear school approved cap, tassel, medallion and gown without alterations or additional decoration. Corsages, wrist corsages, boutonnieres or leis may not be worn on top of gowns.
- School administration may approve graduates to wear additional regalia that meet the following criteria:
  1. Awarded by an organization with academic association affiliated with a DVUSD high school
  2. Awarded by an organization associated with a national honor society which has a minimum GPA requirement or some other academic criteria
  3. Stole provided by the school for the senior officers of the student government body of the school designating their position of office
  4. Medallion provided by the school for the students in top 1% of the graduating class
  5. Provided by a United States military branch

***No other regalia may be worn over the graduation gowns.***

There are certain expectations for audience behavior. The stadium and Deer Valley Unified School District will not allow items such as noise makers, air horns, beach balls, helium balloons, posters, aerosol cans, beverage containers, glass containers or vases, coolers, laser pointers, smokeless cigarettes, drones, selfie sticks or any other items that will be a disruption to the ceremony in the facility. This applies to graduates, parents, and guests. A complete list will be posted on both the Deer Valley High School website and district website. The stadium will strictly enforce checking for these prohibited items.

In the interest of safety for everyone, the stadium is now requiring all attendees to go through metal detectors upon arrival at stadium. We have been assured there will be enough personnel to process through quickly. They are also encouraging attendees to bring no bags/purses or clear bags. However, they will not turn people away if they do have bags/purses.

Graduation is a momentous occasion, and we want the decorum to make it memorable for years to come. Thank you for your continued and phenomenal support of Deer Valley High School.

Kind Regards,



Kim Crooks, Principal  
Deer Valley High School  
#TakeFlightDV