

Welcome to Desert Sky



Introducing



Mrs. Martin
Principal

Mr. Bachler
Assistant Principal



We are a true middle school, with a focus on the whole child

Here at Desert Sky, we focus on *all* aspects of our students to help them achieve personal success in all areas in their lives, including:

- Academics
- Behavior
- Social
- Emotional

Smaller *total* school size

We currently have:

300 students in 7th grade and
333 students in 8th grade

Total = 633

Teaming

Here at Desert Sky, each team of core subject teachers (English, Math, Social Studies, Science) share the *same* group of students.

This allows teachers to truly get to know your students, develop positive relationships, and collaborate on how to best help individual students achieve personal success.

DEDICATED, EXPERIENCED TEACHERS

Teacher Years of Experience:

6 with 10+ years

4 with 20+ years

1 with 30+ years

We also have 5 teachers who were students at Desert Sky, and came back because of their fond memories and positive experiences here.

SUPPORT STAFF

TO HELP YOU AND YOUR STUDENT

Instructional Coach
Behavior Coach
Read 180 Program
Math 180 Program
Parent Liaison
Counselors

ACADEMICS

Advanced Curriculum for High School Credit

- Algebra 1 – 2
Honors
- Spanish 1 – 2
Honors



Out of District Middle School Math Screener and Proficiency Exam Process and Procedures

Eligibility

The student must have a report card or data that indicates that the student is in advanced mathematics. We do not offer guides, textbooks or other types of assistance to prepare for the screener or the proficiency exam.

PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES

STEP BY STEP

1. Contact School Counselor to schedule a 10 question math screener (paper-based)

AnnMarie.Champion@dvusd.org

602-467-6518

Andrea.Knouse@dvusd.org

602-467-6538

2. 10 question math screener is scheduled for 5/22/23 @ 8:00 AM at DSMS. It will take about 30-40 minutes.

3. The math screener must be passed with an 80% in order to qualify for the Proficiency Exam. The screener will be scored before the student leaves the testing location.

4. If the student passes the math screener then they will need to return on July 27th @ 1:30 to take the Middle School Math Proficiency Exam.

5. This is a computer based exam and must be passed with an 80% as well. The exam will be scored automatically when the student submits. The exam takes 60-90 minutes.

6. If the student passes with an 80% we will change the student's schedule to reflect the higher math (MA8 instead of MA7).

7. MA8 at a 7th grader means the student will take Alg 1-2 Honors as an 8th grader. This is a high school credit and will be the first class on their high school transcript.

Student Support Services

- ▣ As mentioned before, we have intervention classes for reading and math:
 - Read 180
 - Elevate (reading)
 - Math 180
- ▣ We also have special education teachers who provide support within the general education classes
- ▣ Those special education teachers also pull students out for small-group instruction

Built-In Intervention Time: FLASH

Focused Learning And Strategic Help

Monday -
Thursday



ESSENTIAL ACADEMIC & SOCIAL BEHAVIOR PROGRAM

Top 20

Top 20 is the program we use to help students learn to recognize feelings, manage impulses and emotions and problem-solve to build meaningful relationships. Their ability to manage these aspects helps them to achieve better behavior and academic success.

Other things to know about Desert Sky

No Cell Phones during the school day

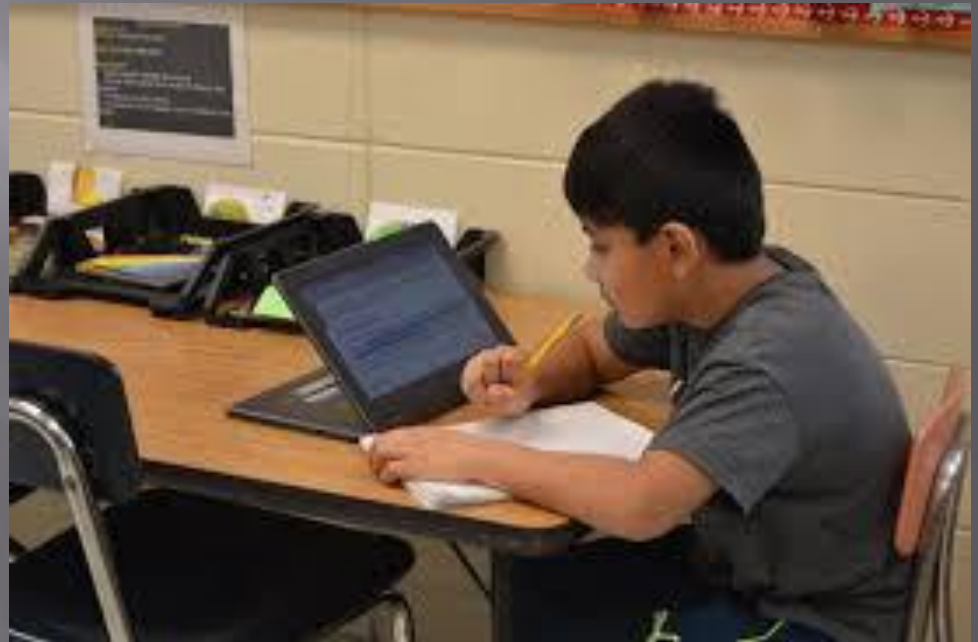
Cell phones are put away in backpacks upon student arrival, and remain put away until the end of the school day.

This maximizes learning time and minimizes distractions and exposure to social media.



1:1 Chromebooks

Each student is issued a Chromebook for the school year.



Behavior Focus: S.T.A.R. Qualities

- ▣ Safe
- ▣ Team Player
- ▣ Accountable
- ▣ Respectful

SHOW US YOU ARE... **S.T.A.R.**

SAFE
S



Follow rules
Remain calm
Respect personal space
If you see something, say something

TEAM PLAYER

T



Be helpful
Be trustworthy
Include and encourage others

ACCOUNTABLE

A



Be dependable
Own your actions
Take responsibility
Demonstrate self-control

RESPECTFUL

R



Be polite
Demonstrate integrity
Be part of the solution

Will my student fit in?

The benefit of coming to Desert Sky is our diverse community, and the fact that there are 5 other schools that feed into us.

This means that there are fewer “cliques” and more opportunities for students to discover new friendships.

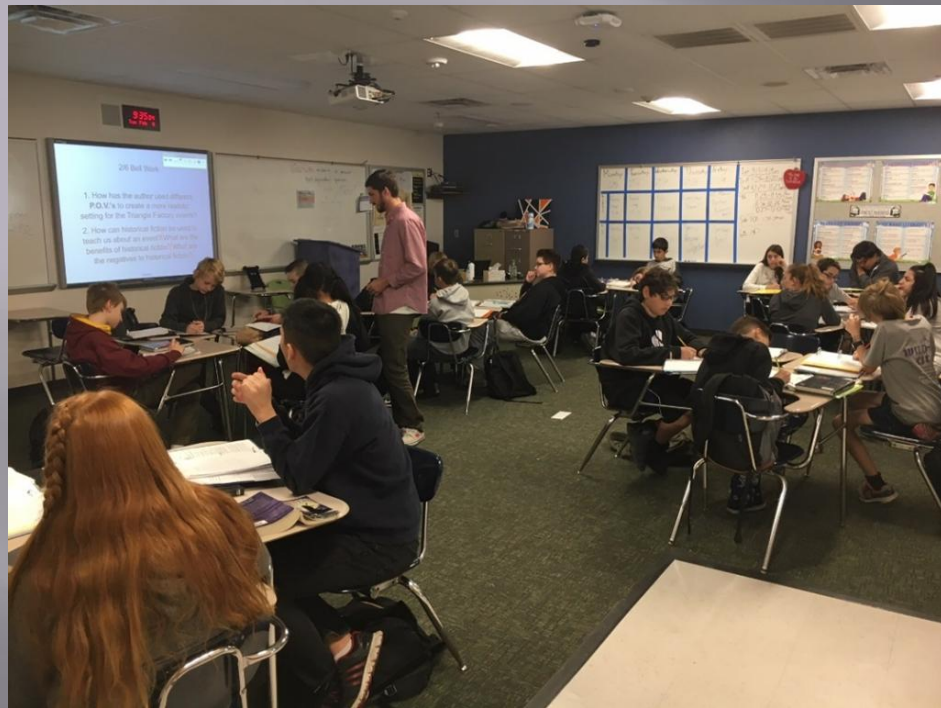


A View into the
Life
of a
Desert Sky
Student



Learning Spaces

▣ Our Classrooms



▣ Band/Chorus Rooms



Learning Spaces

Science Lab

- ▣ Common Collaborative Learning Spaces



In your corner

7/8th Grade Counselors:

Mrs. Champion

Mrs. Knouse

Our counselors travel with
their grade, so your student will have the
same counselor for both years!

Classes at Desert Sky are:

Exciting!
Informational!



Interesting!
Hands on!

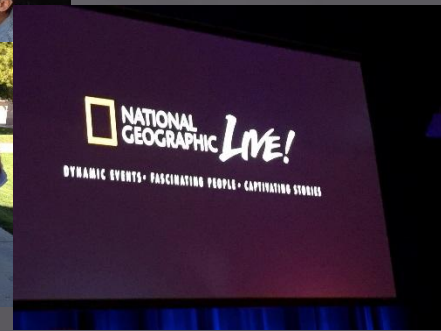


Challenging!

Advanced Classes

For High School Credit:
Algebra 1-2
Spanish 1-2

Advanced:
English
Science
Social Studies



Exploratory Classes

Band/Chorus/Orchestra



P.E./ Health



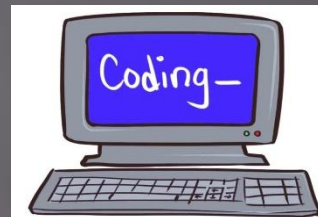
Art



Action Lab (STEM/Health Sciences)



Computer Science



Exploratory Classes

Action Lab (Woodshop/ Building Skills)



Spanish (8th)



Career Action Labs

Mr. Axelrod

Mr. Day



Career Action Labs

- ▣ Biomedical Engineering
- ▣ Computer Aided Drafting
- ▣ Computer Graphics/ Animation
- ▣ Digital Music
- ▣ Environmental & Ecology
- ▣ Flight Technology
- ▣ Forensic Science
- ▣ Informational Technology
- ▣ Research & Development
- ▣ Robotics
- ▣ Sports Medicine
- ▣ Structural Engineering
- ▣ Virtual Architecture
- ▣ Audio Communications
- ▣ Video Production
- ▣ Nursing
- ▣ Digital Manufacturing
- ▣ Framing
- ▣ Drywall
- ▣ Electrical
- ▣ Facility Maintenance
- ▣ Green Construction
- ▣ Masonry
- ▣ Plumbing
- ▣ Tile Setting

At Desert Sky Thunderbolts can Investigate Multiple Career Options

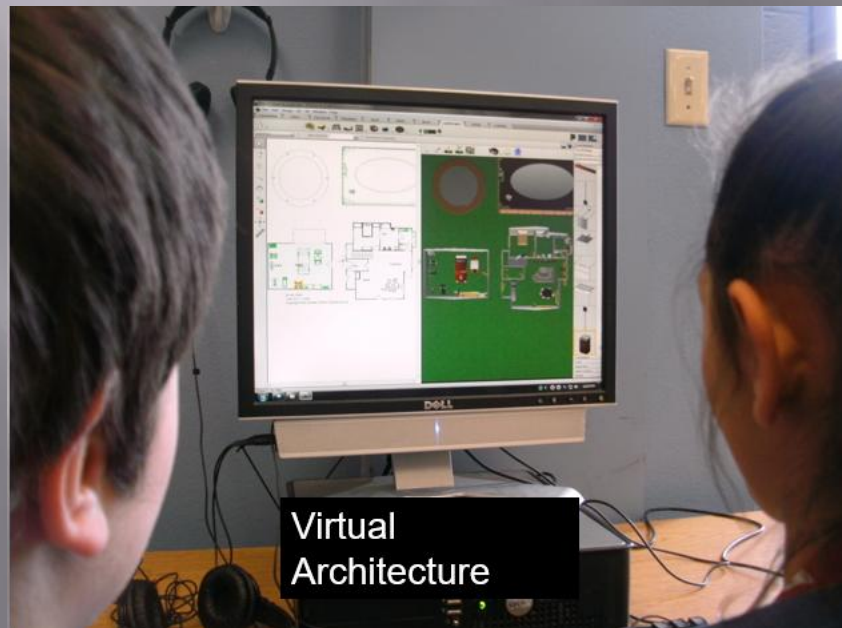
**This can help students make more
informed class choices at the high
school level.**



Environment
and Ecology



Flight
Technology



Virtual
Architecture



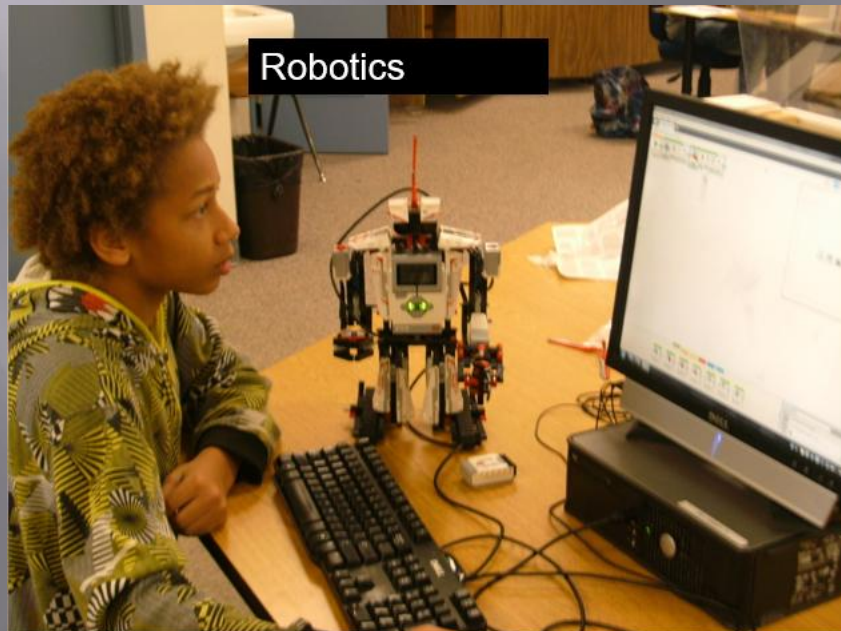
Structural
Engineering



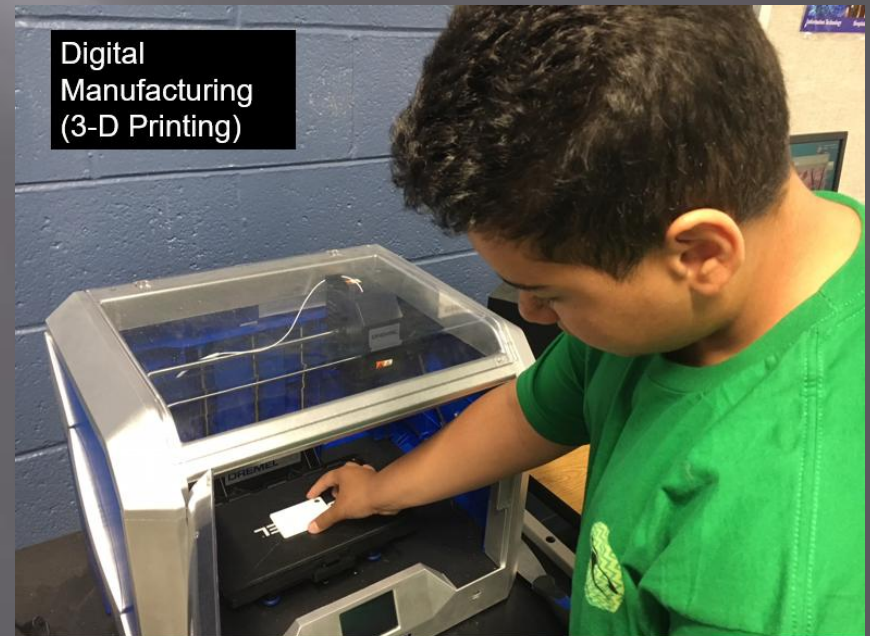
Research and Development



Sports Medicine



Robotics



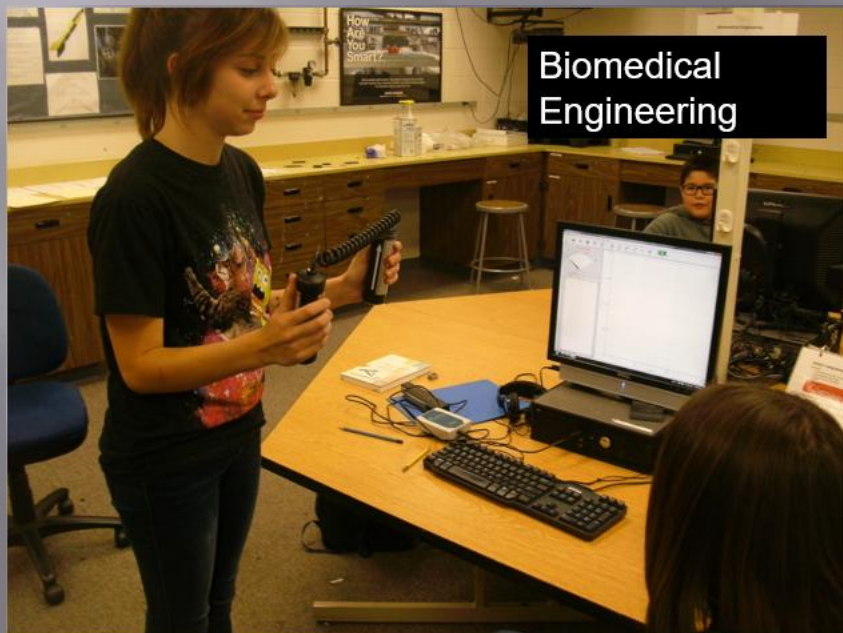
Digital Manufacturing
(3-D Printing)



Forensic
Science



Building Skills



Biomedical
Engineering



Nursing

Green Construction



Framing



Electrical



We also have Computer Science Coding!



```
1 <!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD
2 "http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/strict
3 <html>
4 <head>
5   <title>Example</title>
6   <link rel="stylesheet" href="s
7 </head>
8 <body>
9   <div id="header">
10    <h1><a href="." title="Back
11  </div>
12  <div id="toolbar">
13    <span class="left">Today <sp
14    <span class="right">
15      <span id="time">&nbsp;</sp
16      <select id="timezone">
17        <option value="-12">(GMT
18        <option value="-11">(GMT
```

print("Python is my
favorite language.)

File "<stdin>", line 1
print("Python is my favorite language)

SyntaxError: EOL while scanning string literal



OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO GET INVOLVED

Music: Band, Chorus, And Orchestra: Mrs. Streeter



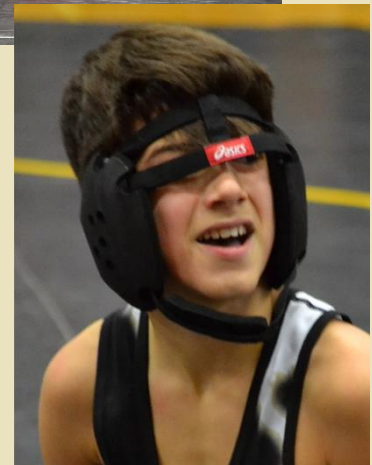
Multiple Sports



No Cut Sports: *Cross Country,
Wrestling / Wrestling Managers,
and Track & Field.*



Tryouts Sports:
*Volleyball, Basketball,
Spirit line, Baseball, and
Softball.*



Desert Sky Middle School Volleyball Camp



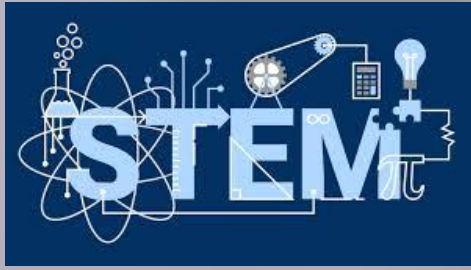
July 18-21, 2023

- Open to all incoming 7th grade students (you) and returning 8th grade boys and girls.
- Camp will work on skills, conditioning, teamwork, and more!

Student Council

- **Leadership Camp July 18-21 2023**
- **Selected & volunteer positions**
- **Coordinate fundraisers**
- **Promote campus spirit**
- **Community service**
- **Direct campus celebrations including assemblies**





Stem Camp

July 18-21 2023

Science
Technology
Engineering
Math

- Challenging Activities
 - Hands-on
 - Working with others



Student Council Activities



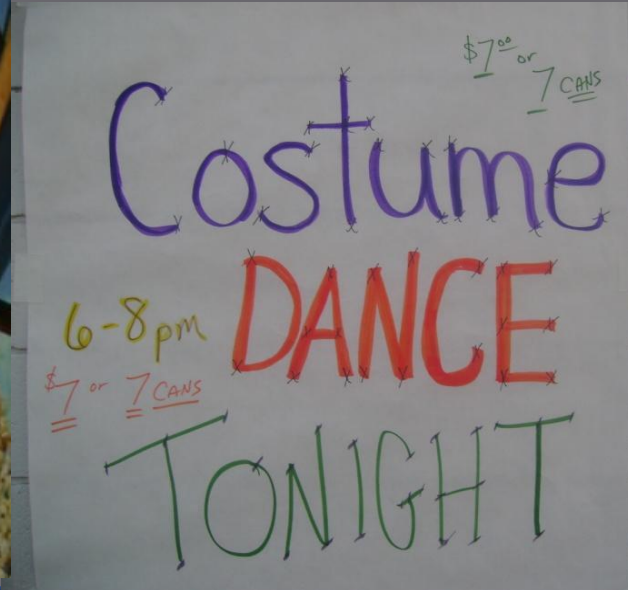
Team
Members:

Directors
Anchors
Cameras
Video Board
Audio
Board
Set Design
And more!

School Announcements



Special Events: DANCES!



Special Events

Spirit and Recognition Assemblies



Special Events

Honor Roll, Sports, NJHS, and more...



Special Events

Middle Level Week

Barbeque



Spirit Week



Special Events

Student / Staff Games



Staff Always Wins !

Volleyball Basketball Tug-o-War

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENTS TO GET INVOLVED

To volunteer contact Jolie Benner at
Jolie.Benner@dvusd.org

Family Movie Night

Athletic Games
Fine Arts Performances
School Events (Debate,
Spelling Bee,
Geography Bee)



We are Desert Sky

We

Take Pride In Being a

Thunderbolt !



See you in August

**Once a Thunderbolt,
ALWAYS
a Thunderbolt!**

QUESTIONS ?

QUESTIONS ?

QUESTIONS ?

Questions?

