



**DEER VALLEY**  
Unified School District

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April 13, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Believe it or not, eighth grade promotion is not too far off! Our hope is that every student has the opportunity to participate in the promotion ceremony, so we want to clarify academic and behavioral expectations while also providing information about the actual ceremony.

#### Academic and Behavioral Expectations

According to the district's promotion and retention standards, students must pass all classes (based upon the yearly average) in which they are enrolled in order to be promoted or participate in promotion activities. Those who may be academically ineligible to participate in the event are being monitored through the counseling office.

Behavioral expectations must also be met. Depending on the severity of any administrative referral incident, a decision will be made by administration regarding whether or not the student will participate in the promotion ceremony. Any student owing money for overdue library books, missing textbooks, or Chromebook outstanding may also be excluded.

#### Ceremony

The event will be held the morning of **May 19, 2021**, in the gym at Desert Sky Middle School. In order to maintain social distancing and safe mitigation practices, this in-person promotion ceremony will be limited to students and staff only. Our campus has limitation on event size capacity and we are unable to utilize our high school facilities this year such as we have for past promotion ceremonies. In an effort to include families and friends in this celebratory event, a live stream viewing will be available during the promotion ceremony. In addition, DSMS will be posting a recording of the promotion video on the school website after the ceremony. As in previous years, both a program and certificate will be provided to students. We look forward to celebrating all of the achievements and the success of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade class of 2021. Details regarding videos, livestream viewing, and distribution of certificates, programs and promotion ceremony times will be communicated at a later date. **May 19<sup>th</sup> will be an 11:35 am early release for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.** They will turn in any remaining Chromebooks.

**Dress Code.** All guidelines of the school dress code apply to this event. We encourage our students to dress up for this important event.

**Girls:** Dresses or skirts and blouses. Respectable skirt length; no mini-skirts. No backless, strapless, halter, or spaghetti-strap tops unless they wear a shawl or sweater. No t-shirts, jeans, shorts, or sweats.

**Boys:** Dress slacks or dress jeans, dress shirts and ties. Shirts should be tucked in. Suits/sport jackets are optional. No tuxedos, t-shirts, hats, sunglasses, jeans, shorts, sweats, or sagging pants.

**Students who do not follow the dress code will not be permitted to participate in the ceremony.**

**Promotion Pictures.** We have secured Grads Photography to take a picture of each student that will be available for purchase. More information will be communicated at a later date.

Again, we are all very excited to be a part of the promotion ceremony as we send our eighth graders off to continue their educational journey. Thank you in advance for supporting your student's academic and behavioral expectations.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the school office at 602-467-6500.

Sincerely,

Patricia Resetar, Principal

Christopher Berg, Assistant Principal

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Curtis Finch, PhD

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