

April 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians and Graduates:

Deer Valley High School is excited to be hosting its graduation ceremony at the University of Phoenix Stadium on **Friday, May 19, 2017 at 4:30 PM**. The Stadium is located at 1 Cardinals Drive, Glendale, AZ 85305. We are providing the following rules and suggestions in order to conduct a smooth and dignified graduation.

Please keep this list for reference:

- A Graduation meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 in Room 212 through English Language Arts classes. Students not enrolled in an ELA class on our campus or who are early graduates may contact the counseling office for information at 602-467-6716.
- **Senior checkout is on Thursday, May 18, 2017 from 8:30 – 10:00 AM in the Practice Gym. At checkout, seniors will receive their cap and gown unit (which includes a tassel) and name card for the ceremony.** Prior to going to the checkout, seniors must have cleared all debts in the bookstore and library. If any monies are owed, they must be paid in **cash** at that time. **Students are encouraged to pay debts on or before Tuesday, May 16, 2017 to avoid long lines at the bookstore on Senior Checkout day.**
- Graduation will be at the University of Phoenix Stadium on **Friday, May 19, 2017 at 4:30 PM**. Graduates, families and friends should be at the University of Phoenix Stadium **by 3:30 PM**.
- It is suggested that family drive to the University of Phoenix Stadium with the graduate. This will facilitate parking and allow families to select their seating. Graduates, family and friends will need to park by Gate 3. There will be designated parking within walking distance of the University of Phoenix Stadium. There is plenty of parking for handicapped guests should it be needed. Guests will not be admitted before 1:30 PM. **Guests will enter through Gate 3 and graduates will enter through Gate 2.**
- This is a special event. Those wearing cut-offs, t-shirts, flip-flops, etc. may be denied admission. Guests may sit wherever they would like in the general seating area. Seating is available in Sections 114-124.
- Upon arriving at the University of Phoenix Stadium, **graduates go to the Gate 2** entrance. They will travel down a tunnel to reach a designated staging area to pick up their blue name card and wait until the processional begins.
- **Graduates must carry their caps and gowns into the University of Phoenix Stadium until they have checked in.**
- **Male graduates must wear dress slacks, socks and dark colored shoes, and a shirt with a collar. Ties are preferred. Female graduates should wear dresses or skirts and blouses and are discouraged from wearing floor-length dresses or slacks. Flip-flops are not appropriate footwear. All graduates should remember that graduation is a dignified occasion.**
- Caps and gowns are NOT to be decorated.
- Tassels will be worn on the right side of the cap.
- **No corsages, gifts, flowers (loose or in vases), or balloons will be allowed to be delivered at the University of Phoenix Stadium. Corsages, wrist corsages, leis, or boutonnieres should not be worn on gowns. Please leave them with family or friends until after the ceremony.**

- Graduates are asked to leave purses and electronic devices with family during the ceremony.
- The audience stands as the graduates enter and remains standing through the presentation of colors, National Anthem, and the Pledge of Allegiance.
- During the National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance, men will remove their mortarboards (caps) and hats.
- Graduate seating will be in alphabetical order with A – L on one side and M– Z on the other.
- Each graduate will present his/her blue name card to the announcer prior to walking across the stage.
- An official photographer will be taking pictures of all graduates receiving their diplomas. **Cameras, including video cameras without stands, will be allowed in the stadium, but we ask you not to leave your seat to take pictures.** This is a courtesy to spectators and graduates and will be enforced by University of Phoenix Stadium Security.
- **There are certain expectations for audience behavior which applies to graduates, family and guests. The Stadium and the Deer Valley Unified School District will NOT allow items such as noise makers, air horns, beach balls, helium balloons, posters, aerosol cans, beverage containers, coolers, umbrellas, and any other items that will be a disruption to the ceremony. Violators will be asked to leave by school security and the Glendale Police Department. The Stadium will also not allow any glass vases, so if you bring flowers, please do not have them in a glass vase.**
- Following the end of the ceremony, graduates will recess out a side exit to a room where diplomas will be issued. Parents/Guardians, friends and family must exit through Gate 3 and meet the graduates outside of the Stadium.

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

Sincerely,



Kim Crooks
Principal