

Barry Goldwater High School 2820 W Rose Garden Ln. Phoenix, AZ 85027 P 623-445-3000 F 623-445-3080 bghs.dvusd.org



Superintendent Curtis Finch, PhD

Governing Board Steve Bottfeld Paul A. Carver Jr. Kimberly K. Fisher Dr. Karen C. Pack Stephanie Simacek Spring of 2025

Dear Class of 2025 Graduates and Parents of Graduates: :

Barry Goldwater High School will be holding our graduation ceremony at the **DESERT DIAMOND ARENA** on May 15, 2025 @ 7:00 p.m. There are NO tickets and no limit on the numbers of guests attending.

This letter provides you with the rules and suggestions for the big day with the goal of ensuring we have a smooth and dignified graduation event. We ask that you review these guidelines as we must adhere to them in order for the ceremony to meet stadium and state requirements.

Please keep this list for reference:

- April 25th during advisory (9:15 a.m.) in the BGHS auditorium there will be a graduation rehearsal.
 Graduates do not go to the arena to rehearse. All graduates including those taking classes off campus will attend this meeting. Check in at the front desk to receive a pass to the auditorium. The presentation information will be posted on the BG website for anyone who is absent.
- May 9th is the date all seniors must ensure any debts are taken care of and the student is cleared by the bookstore, media center, cafeteria. All books and athletic equipment must be returned.
- May 13th is senior checkout. At checkout, graduates will return their Chrome books. If any monies
 are still owed, they must be paid in cash on the 13th. Once cleared the graduates are given their
 DIPLOMA.
- May 15th @ 7:00 p.m. is GRADUATION! Please do not come early. Doors open at 6 p.m. and all graduates will need to be at the Stadium by 6:15 p.m.

A parking map will be provided closer to the date of graduation and will also be posted on the school website. THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR PARKING. There will be ADA parking available and drop off areas are also an option. Please consider CARPOOLING. Ideally graduates would ride with their families to ensure there is enough parking for all attending. For complete information on the Arena you can visit Desertdiamondarena.com.

PROCESS FOR GRADUATES:

- Graduates enter at GATE 7 and proceed down the stairs to the floor staging area. BE CEREMONY READY as you enter. Restrooms are located at the Gate 7 entrance and graduates will not be allowed to go back upstairs to use restrooms once they are downstairs in the arena staging area. COME CEREMONY READY!
- Graduates will go to their assigned seats in the staging area..
- When the graduation ceremony begins, the students will march in along the east or west walls of the stadium and proceed to the north side of the floor to be seated.
- At the conclusion of the graduation ceremony the students exit through GATE 5. They will meet their guests outside of GATE 5. Students and guests will be asked to refrain from congregating outside the arena.

GRADUATE STAGING, VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHY

- Graduates will be seated on the main floor of the stadium in alphabetical order. On the left as you face the stage students with last names of A-K will be seated. L-Z will be seated ON THE RIGHT SIDE AS YOU FACE THE STAGE. Names will be read alternating left side to right side. The name listed in PowerSchool is used unless a graduate wants to shorten their name or eliminate their middle name etc. and they do so by telling the name reader the name to use as they go up the steps and onto the stage. IF A GRADUATE wants a different name read, they must have parental approval and this is given to administration prior to graduation day. Requests will need to be sent email ahead of time via: heather.frazier@dvusd.org.
- As the graduates enter the floor area guests will stand and remain standing through the presentation of colors, the national anthem, and the Pledge of Allegiance.
- An official photographer will be taking pictures of all graduates as they accept their diploma on stage. To order
 photos register your graduate with Grads Photography. Ordering photos is of course optional. We ask that guests
 do not leave their seat during the ceremony to take pictures. This is requested as a courtesy to the other
 spectators and will be enforced by security.
- No one other than graduates and staff who are working will be allowed on the floor of the arena.

• The arena will video/stream the ceremony and the video can be viewed later and accessed on the school's website. Handheld video cameras will be allowed. The stadium does not allow video camera stands.

Graduates will wear the school approved cap, tassel, medallion and gown without any alterations or additional decoration., wrist corsages, boutonnieres or leis/money leis, ethnic stolls may not be worn on top of gowns. Any items that are not approved will be taken and returned at the end of the ceremony.

The school administration may approve graduates to wear additional regalia if it meets the following criteria:

- o Awarded by an organization with academic association affiliated with a DVUSD high school
- o Awarded by an organization associated with a national honor society which has a minimum GPA requirement or some other academic criteria
- o Stole provided by the school for the senior officers of the student government body of the school designating their position of office
- o Medallion provided by the school for the students in top 1% of the graduating class
- o Provided by a United States military branch

All guests entering Desert Diamond Arena will be searched and have their belongings scanned. Desert Diamond Arena reserves the right to confiscate items which may cause danger or disruption to the event or other guests, or which are in breach of building policies and/or prohibited items. All guests entering the arena are subject to a metal-detector screening, visual inspection and bag inspection conducted by Desert Diamond Arena Security personnel. There will be a Bag Policy in effect - NO BAGS LARGER THAN 4.5" X 6.5.

PROCESS For GUESTS:

- Guests will be asked to park in the designated parking area and enter the ARENA at GATE 4.
- Seating for guests is on the east & west sides or the north end of arena
- If ADA seating is required, see an arena representative for assistance.
- As the graduation ends, the guests will exit GATE 4 where they entered and meet graduates at GATE 5
- Graduates and guests are asked to refrain from congregating outside the arena.
- Spectators must be appropriately dressed for admission to the graduation. This is a special event.
- There are certain expectations for audience behavior. The arena (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, 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. A complete list is posted on the Desert Diamond Arena website. This applies to graduates, parents, and guests.

We are hoping that everyone will help make this ceremony special for our Graduates. We are proud of the Class of 2025 and want this momentous occasion to be formal and yet memorable. Thank you for your continued and phenomenal support of Barry Goldwater High School.

Sincerely,

Dr. Anita Stulc, Principal Barry Goldwater High School

Anita M. Spile