Class of '25: You have risen to the challenge

BY DR. SCOTT A. MENZEL, PHD Progress Guest Writer

ear SUSD Class of 2025,
As you prepare to cross the graduation stage and take the next big step in your life's journey, know that we see in you a class that has risen to the challenges, embraced opportunity, and is ready to reach new heights.

The Scottsdale Unified School District is proud to have been a part of your story. My favorite memories are those of cheering you on during academic celebrations, theatrical performances, and sporting events. The commitment this class has shown to academics, arts,



and athletics runs deep, and your talents are limitless.

The culmination of your K-12 career comes at a time when we celebrate

ways to #ElevateExcellence. Remember, excellence is a daily pursuit - each day represents a new opportunity to elevate excellence. It is reflected in how you respond to setbacks as well as in each success on your journey.

As you move forward, I encourage you to continue seeking ways to elevate excellence in yourself, in your communities, and in the world.

Your achievements were not handed to you. They were hard-earned through persistence, late nights, early mornings, and the steady belief that your goals were worth the effort.

Of course, you couldn't have done it without the support of those who walked beside you on this journey. That support, coupled with the lessons you've learned and the friendships you've forged, will carry you far.

The Class of 2025 holds a special place in the life of this district, and I have every confidence that you will continue to achieve great things in the years ahead.

As you step into this next chapter, may you go forward with confidence, curiosity, and the courage to keep climbing.

Congratulations, SUSD Class of 2025, and best wishes for a future filled with greatness!

Dr. Scott A. Menzel, PhD, is superintendent of Scottsdale Unified School District.

Arcadia HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2025



COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER:

Savannah Shorb

Parents: Kimberly Bielke and Karl Shorb. **GPS:** 4.75.

Extracurriculars: National Honor Society, Ambassadors, Girls Varsity Soccer, Garden Club social media runner, math tutor, part-time job, club soccer.

Heading for: University of Southern California **Major:** Communications at the Annenberg School for Communications and Journalism.



Other distinguished students

- Ari Schott scored the max 36 on ACT and 1520 on PSAT.
- Aidan McClure scored maximum 1520 on PSAT.
- Victoria Bourgeois-Conti scored max 1600 on SAT.
- Ahnaiya Anderson was named a Gates Foundation Scholar.
- Cooper Call named National Hispanic Recognition Scholar.
- Lily Ord, student government president, demonstrated exceptional campus leadership.

Notable athletes

· Payton Connelly has a full ride schol-

- arship to play golf at Colorado State University-Pueblo.
- Logan Connelly has signed to play football at Lake Forest University.
- Lane Sheedy has signed to play beach volleyball at UC – Bakersfield.
- Gehrig Heil has signed to play football at Louisiana Tech.
- Brady Panzer will play baseball at Arizona Christian University.
- Owen Guarine will play baseball at Southwestern University.
- Davis Witherspoon will play lacrosse at Barry College.
- Will Steen Koppell will play baseball at MIT.

CLASS PROFILE

Graduates: 375.

GPA of 4.0 or higher: 104. **GPA 3.750-4.249:** 85. **GPA 4.250-4.499:** 26.

GPA of 4.500+: 35.

Total scholarships: \$3,829,249. Enlisting in the military: 1. National Merit Scholars: 6. Seals of Arts Proficiency: 3:

Seals of Biliteracy: 42; Seals of Personal Finance: 24; Other distinctive achievements:

- Ari Schott scored the max 36 on ACT and 1520 on PSAT.
- Aidan McClure scored max 1520 on PSAT.
- Victoria Bourgeois-Conti scored max 1600 on SAT.

- 26 students have a 4.0 unweighted
- 36 students are graduating summa cum laude (overall weighted GPA >=4.500).
- 23 students earned the highest merit award from ASU (President's Scholarship.
- 23 students earned the highest merit award from NAU (Lumberjack Schol-

- arship).
- 16 students earned the highest merit award from the University of Arizona (Wildcat Distinction).

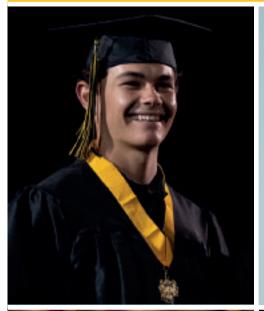
Student government officers: President Lily Ord, Vice President Elizabeth Gilbert, Treasurer James Richardson, Secretary Brooke Mitchell.



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Chaparral HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2025



COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS:



Marin Cohen

GPA: 3.902. **Headed for**: University of Arizona.



Danielle Verlardi

GPA: 4.250. **Headed for**: University of California/Santa Barbara.



Broderick Schmidgall

Headed for: University of Wisconsin Madison.



Ava Deruvo

GPA: 4.097. **Headed for**: Arizona State

University - Barrett, The Honors

College.

CLASS PROFILE

Graduates: 470.

GPA of 4.0 or higher: 161. GPA 3.750-4.249: 130. GPA 4.250-4.499: 43. GPA of 4.500+: 52.

Total scholarships: \$10 million (\$2.2 million from Arizona universities).

College bound: 415.

Enlisting in the military: 5.

Attending a military academy: 1. CTE program completions: 122. National Merit Scholars: 10.

Flinn Scholars: 1.

U.S. Presidential Scholars: 2. Seals of Arts Proficiency: 31. Seals of Biliteracy: 38.

Seals of Personal Finance: 11. Seals of Civics Literacy: 1.

Scottsdale Charros Outstanding

Seniors: 2.

Rotary Club of Scottsdale Scholar-

ship winners: 4.

Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen: 1.

Class officers: President Marin Cohen, Vice President Hunter Wohland, Treasurer Stella Price, Secretary Payton Gapusan, Senior Class Senator Eva Harris.

Student Body President: Claire Joh

Coronado HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2025



COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER:

Kailyn Holsey

Parents: Eric and Tonya Holsey.

GPA: 3.795.

Extracurriculars: National Honor Society, sports medicine internship, CEO Club, varsity girls basketball,

club basketball.

Heading for: Northern Arizona

University

Major: Sports Medicine



Scholarships: Living and Learning (ASU), President's Achievement Award (Kent State), Redhawk Excellence Award (Miami University), Dean's with Distinction (NAU), Wildcat Excellence Award (UofA), Cincinnatus Scholarship (University of Cincinnati, Arizona Reciprocal Scholarship (Univ. of New Mexico), Minds Move Mountains (University of Oregon), Jesuit

Heritage Award (Xavier University), Presidential Merit Scholarship (Xavier University).

CLASS PROFILE

Graduates: 175.

GPA of 4.0 or higher: 15. **GPA 3.750–4.249:** 17.

GPA 4.250-4.499: 2.

GPA of 4.500+: 1. **Total scholarships:**

\$3,100,000.

College bound: 85.

Enlisting in the military: 3.

CTE Program Completions: 26.

Seals of Arts Proficiency: 12. **Seals of Biliteracy:** 9.

Seals of Personal Finance:

30.

Coronado Promise: 37.

Class officers: President Colt Sura, Treasurer Anthony Rivera, Secretary Brianna Smith. Student Body President:

Arizona Molina.

Desert Mountain HIGHSCHOOL CLASS OF 2025



CLASS PROFILE

Graduates: 464.

GPA 3.750-4.249: 103. **GPA 4.250-4.499:** 41. **GPA of 4.500+:** 55.

Total scholarships: \$8,351,059.

College bound: 346. Enlisting in the military: 10.

Military academy: 3.

CTE Program Completions: 132.
National Merit Scholars: 11.
Seals of Arts Proficiency: 26.

Seals of Biliteracy: 81. **IB Diploma Recipients:** 48.

Distinguished grads

- Twins Ellie and Zoe Horning are going to Yale (swimming) and Emory (softball), respectively.
- Emily Raines will attend Yale and play softball there.
- Bryce Hevesy is going to Army Westpoint (football).
- Lexi Gregory (diving) and Jordan Falls (swimming) are going to the Air Force

Academy.

- Anna Lyons is a Congressional Merit Award winner headed to the University of Arizona.
- Charros winners are Harper Helfman (also a Flinn Scholar semifinalist) who is currently undecided, and Lucas Blumling, who is going to Fresno State on a football scholarship.
- Emma Feeney, who is attending theUniversity of Galway in Ireland, won the Arizona Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year Award and the Greater Scottsdale Youth of the Year.
- Nation Merit Scholars: Adriana Chen, Jordan Falls, Max Farkas, Taytum Feuerbacher, Adam Fruehe, Meredith Gerken, Nandini Gopalakrishnan, Madaline Naidu, Lauren Parton, Jazlyn Sandhu and Sonia Woo.

Class officers: President Hailey Glicksman and Vice President Anna Lyons.



Desert Mountain High's National Merit Scholars display their certificates. More information below. (SUSD)

Commencement speaker

TESSA WACHTEL

Parents: John and Tarianne Wachtel.

GPA: 4.2

Extracurriculars: Top girls tennis player on state champion girls tennis team. She held the No. 1 ranking the entire year. Will play tennis at Marist College

too. Member of the National Honors Society.

Heading to: Marist College

Major: Psychology

Scholarships: Marist Presidential

Scholarship.

Saguavo HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2025

CLASS PROFILE

Graduates: 306.

GPA of 4.0 or higher: 84. GPA 3.750-4.249: 58. GPA 4.250-4.499: 13. GPA of 4.500+: 39.

Total Arizona universities scholarships: \$5,352,528.

College bound: 238.

Enlisting in the military: 6.

Military academy: 1.

National Merit Scholars: 8. Seals of Arts Proficiency: 39.

Seals of Biliteracy: 56. Seals of Civics Literacy: 1. MSA Distinction: 47.

Scottsdale ONLINE LEARNING CLASS OF 2025

CLASS PROFILE

Graduates: 71.

GPA of 4.500+: 1.

GPA of 4.0 or higher: 2. **GPA 3.750-4.249:** 7. **GPA 4.250-4.499:** 3.

Seals of Arts Proficiency: 1.





