Desert Star Academy
5902 Hwy 95 • Fort Mohave, AZ 86426 • 928-770-4523

Dear Titans Families,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2025-2026 school year at Desert Star High School. Our staff has been working hard to prepare for this upcoming year and we can't wait to get started. If you'd like to learn more about our DSHS staff please read see the profiles below.

Mr. Osuna Principal	Mr. Osuna has been a part of the Fort Mohave & Bullhead City community since 1995. He earned a Bachelor's degree from Northern Arizona University in Career & Technical Education & a Master's degree in Educational Administration from Grand Canyon University. He has served as a teacher and administrator in community schools for the last 11 years, including the last 2 years at DSA. "I look forward to continuing to build, along with our excellent staff, an exceptional high school that serves our scholars, families, and the community".	
Mr. Clark Assistant Principal / Athletic Director / Physical Ed.	Coach Clark earned his bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and his Master's degree in Educational Administration from Grand Canyon University. He has taught and coached in both North Carolina and Arizona for close to 20 years and is going into his second year as an administrator. "Success is a Choice"	
Mr. Gladeau CTE Director	Mr. Gladeau has been a part of the Tri-State community for over 20 years. He earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Washington State University and Masters Degrees in Secondary Education and School Administration from Grand Canyon University and Northern Arizona University respectively. He has 11 years of experience in education including starting his 5th year at Desert Star Academy. "I have watched as this school has grown into an invaluable part of our community that continues to produce scholars, citizens, and leaders ready for all of life's experiences."	

Mr. Johnson World History	Mr. Johnson has been teaching for 7 years in the Colorado River Valley. He has degrees in Journalism and Broadcasting from Ricks College, and Film and Television Productions from Chapman University and shares an equal love for Film and Novels. He has participated in historical research, practical application and reenactment for 15 years.	
Ms. Rascon English 9 & 10	Ms. Rascon graduated locally from River Valley High School and has been teaching various levels of high school English in the area for over 6 years. She received her bachelor's degree in English for Secondary Education from Grand Canyon University and went on to earn her master's degree in English Studies from Arizona State University. Ms. Rascon has a passion for building scholars' confidence in reading, writing, and critical thinking. She is excited to work with this year's scholars as she guides them through the deep waters of English Language Arts.	
Ms. Carroll Honors English / English 11 / Literature Electives	Ms. Jody Carroll is excited to return “home” to Desert Star Academy, where she first began her teaching career, to serve as the high school’s ninth and tenth grade honors English Language Arts teacher and eleventh grade American Literature teacher for the 2025–2026 school year. A proud alumna of Arizona State University, Ms. Carroll holds both a B.A. and M.A. in English and has taught ELA in Mohave County since 2019. Her experience spans both middle and high school English, including serving as a dual enrollment instructor for ENG 101 and 102 through Mohave Community College. With a prior professional background in copywriting and digital marketing, including work with New York Times best-selling authors, Ms. Carroll brings a deep understanding of writing craft and rhetorical strategy to her classroom. She believes in the power of literature to give voice to the time, culture, and circumstances in which it was written, revealing the complexities of the human experience across history. It is this belief that	

	drives her mission to guide students to strengthen analytical skills, discover personal connections with texts, and engage critically with literature as a reflection of the world around them.	
Chef Pinkard CTE Culinary Arts	Chef Pinkard is a certified CTE instructor and has been teaching for 4 years at various community schools. He really enjoys working with the younger generation to get them thinking about their future and seeing our young scholars working so hard to become something better than themselves. For Chef Pinkard the opportunity to help scholars learn more about the culinary environment and learn all about the opportunities that career entails is his passion.	
Mr. Perales Environmental Science & Fine Arts: Art I & II	Mr. Perales has a BA in Fine Arts & Communication from California State University Northridge (emphasis on Life Drawing & Digital Compositing). Mr. Perales also holds an AA in early childhood education & has been working in education for over 15 years and has held many titles, such as: Special Education SLD teacher/Case Manager, Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology and Fine Arts. Mr. Perales has helped bring many Track & Field & Cross Country teams to qualify in division 3 for State. Mr. Perales has also worked with scholars and the community to create multiple live casting groups that have live streamed sports in the community for over 6 years. Mr. Perales is looking forward to using his educational knowledge to teach Environmental Science this year and continue to build DSHS's Art program through various community events.	

Mr. Sagasta CTE Business Management	Mr. Sagasta has been with Desert Star Academy for eight years. He's been one of our most respected and flexible assets, as a seasoned business management instructor with a passion for empowering, encouraging, educating tomorrow's future leaders. Mr. Sagasta brings a wealth of experience, expertise, and education to the classroom. With a strong background in business and strategic planning, organizational development, and leadership. Mr. Sagasta has guided numerous scholars in navigating the complexities of modern business environments. He has also played a significant influence in the lives of many of our scholars here at Desert Star Academy. Through his engaging lectures, interactive learning experiences, and his summer program. Mr. Sagasta holds an Associates Degree from University of Phoenix, Certificate of Career Technical Education, and has fifteen years experience in both academia and industry. Mr. Sagasta is a continuous learner and student of business management, business psychology, and leadership development.	
Mr. Rosario Resource Teacher Math/English	Mr. Rosario comes to DSA HS with an Advanced Graduate Studies Degrees in Special Education; a B.A. in Sociology and Education and a Master of Arts in Urban Planning. He came to DSA after retiring from the Yavapai County Accommodation School District where he taught at two (2) alternative high schools special education, when he was nominated for Teacher of the Year Award. Before this time, he taught special education at the Humboldt County Unified School District at the Glassford Hill Middle School. In the East Valley, he taught at the Pinal County Accommodation School District. Prior to this, he worked at Desert Choice Charter Schools. Last but not least, after 30 years, Mr. Rosario retired from the Dept. of Interior, National Park Service as a Supervisory Park Ranger. His favorite slogan is " If you want to succeed, I will make sure you don't fail!"	

Ms. Melcher CTE Early Childhood Education	Ms. Melcher has spent the last 25 years doing what she loves most—helping scholars grow and succeed. With a Bachelor's in Elementary Education and Early Childhood and a Master's degree in Education Leadership from Northern Arizona University, she's taught 1st through 4th grade and has also served as a principal, always putting scholars at the center of everything she does. Over the years, Ms. Melcher has worn many hats in education, including her current role as a Career and Technical Education (CTE) teacher. Whether she's leading a classroom or supporting other educators, she brings experience, heart, and a whole lot of passion to the table.	
Ms. Myers Fine Arts: Choir, Band, & Theather	Ms. Myers is proud to serve as the band director at Desert Star High School. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Choral Music Education from Southern Utah University and will be beginning her Master's in Music Education this June. With a strong foundation in music theory and a deep passion for music, Ms. Myers is dedicated to inspiring and developing the next generation of musicians at DSHS. In addition to her role in the music department, Ms. Myers also serves as the Interact Club advisor. With a rich background in Rotary leadership, she is passionate about guiding scholars to become strong, service-minded leaders who embody the motto "Service Above Self." She is excited to contribute to the growth of both the fine arts and leadership programs at DSHS, helping create a well-rounded and vibrant school community.	

Mr. Jackson CTE Graphic Design	Mr. Jackson has been teaching for 39 years and has taught 28 different subjects ranging from Computer-Aided drafting (CAD) to website development. “I have been blessed to have earned many awards throughout my teaching career, such as Arizona County Teacher of the Year, Arizona SkillsUSA Advisor of the Year, National Trade and Industry Lifetime Achievement of the Year, Models of Excellence Program of the Year, and Arizona State Graphic Communications Program of the year. My goal as an educator is to empower students to become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders, and responsible community members.”	
Mr. Perkins Counselor	Mr. Paul has been working at Desert Star the past three years as a counselor. He earned his degree from Northern AZ to be a counselor, and is continuing his education through Walden University to become a Licensed Social worker (LMSW). He grew up in Bullhead City. He spent 29 years working retail, spending the majority of the years as a store manager and 7 of those years as a District Manager. He has also worked on a mobile crisis team traveling to help those wanting to hurt themselves or hurt others. Mr. Paul feels that he found his calling when he joined Desert Star as a counselor as he now feels like he doesn’t work; he just spends time doing what he loves. His passion is to help guide the scholars through tough times as well as help them academically.	
Mr. Mulcahy Weights	Mr. Mulcahy is originally from Nebraska but has called this area home since 2006. With 21 years of teaching experience, he brings a wealth of knowledge and passion to the classroom. In addition to his work in education, he is the owner and coach at Heat Wave CrossFit. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education and a master’s degree in Curriculum Development. Combining his love for teaching and fitness, Mr. Mulcahy is excited to turn his passion into his profession because when you love what you do, it never feels like work! Scholars will not only build physical strength but also gain lifelong skills they can carry with them well beyond the gym.	
Mr. Eastman Algebra/	Mr. Eastman earned his Bachelor of Arts from Eastern Washington University in 2007. He has been teaching overseas in Shanghai for the past	

Geometry	13 years. In 2022, Mr. Eastman returned home to Washington State and then to BHC last year where he has been coaching youth basketball. He now joins Desert Star Academy as the new Algebra/Geometry teacher and boys basketball coach. Having settled into the community with his family, he is eager to support both the academic and extracurricular programs at the school.
Dr. Rubio Honors Chemistry / Algebra 1 & 2 / Chemistry	Dr. Rubio earned a Doctorate of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering from the University of California and a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from California State University at Northridge. His Arizona teaching certifications include Secondary Mathematics, Computer Science, & Physics. He has been working in education for over 23 years and is looking forward to working with our scholars in the classroom and also through various math and STEM competitions and activities throughout the school year.