



R5 High School Phoenix Gazette

Hello R5 Community,

We have already been through the first month of 2026 and hope everyone is staying warm. February begins the annual planning for graduation as we countdown to May.

Our Senior Class meeting for 2026 graduates is scheduled for Wednesday, February 4th at 9:45am. This meeting is for all seniors who are planning to graduate in May. We welcome family members to join as well if your schedule allows. During the meeting we provide important graduation information, deadlines, and access to ordering caps, gowns, invitations, and more. If you have a senior in your home who is planning to graduate in May, they need to attend this meeting.

Our R5 High School team has worked hard to improve attendance as we experienced lower attendance rates than normal in the first two quarters. Rates are slowly improving but we know we can do better. We understand the cold and short days can be challenging however, time is of the essence as we are already halfway through quarter 3. Please help us continue to encourage learners to come to school daily, we'll be here to welcome them with open arms.

February also brings our 3rd quarter Student Spotlight on Thursday, February 19th from 3:15-6:15pm at R5 High School. The R5 Student Spotlight is our version of Parent-Teacher Conferences. Come join us and check-in with teachers to get important updates on how your learners are doing this quarter and progressing towards graduation at R5 High School. It's always great to connect with our community and we look forward to seeing you.

We have big hearts for all learners who attend our school and we are honored to work with each one of them. The R5HS graduation rate is up for a second year in a row and we are experiencing success in many ways. Thank you for your partnership and support of R5.



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SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE
WHAT LEARNERS AT THE EUREKA!
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE
HAVE BEEN UP TO!



WHAT IS THE DISTRICT 51 FOUNDATION?

The D51 Foundation (D51F) raises money to support our local schools, prioritizing funding for professional learning, technology and innovation, and staff and student wellness. Our mission is to raise funds for academic growth and achievement while promoting outreach to benefit kids and our community.

WWW.D51FOUNDATION.ORG

February, 2026

R5 ROCKSTAR

Liza Hines



Is an indispensable member of the R5 community who is deeply reflective, self-motivated, and consistently going above and beyond to serve students both inside and beyond the school walls.

She brings extraordinary empathy, respect, and presence to her work while supporting students and staff through the daily challenges they carry with compassion and care.

She provides leadership as a thoughtful problem-solver with a collaborative spirit, creating meaningful solutions for all involved, and bringing humor and warmth that uplift the entire team.

YOU'RE INVITED



3rd Quarter Exhibitions

Wednesday, March 11th
9:45 am - 10:30 am

Harry Butler Board Room @ R5

KINDNESS IS CONTAGIOUS

WEEK IS HERE! Feb. 9-Feb. 13

Spirit Days

- Monday**
warm & fuzzy day
wear flannel, fuzzy socks, pjs
- Tuesday**
don't hide your kindness
wear camouflage
- Wednesday**
spread the love
wear pink and red
- Thursday**
kindness is contagious
Wear kindness is contagious sweatshirt
- Friday**
unite in kindness
wear school colors, purple, grey & black

IMPORTANT DATES

February 16th - No School in Observance of Presidents Day

February 19th - PAC Meeting @ 11:30am

February 19th - Third Quarter Student Spotlights



PLANNING ON GRADUATING?
MAKE SURE TO ATTEND THE
SENIOR CLASS MEETING
9:45 AM WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2026
HARRY BUTLER BOARD ROOM



STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

Thursday
February 19th, 2026
3:15 - 6:15 pm

@ R5 High School

R5HS PRINCIPAL ADVISORY MEETING



The R5 High School Principal Advisory Committee (PAC) brings together the school community and school leadership to continue growing and improving R5 High School. Mr. Steinmetz, the principal of R5, invites families of current R5HS learners to join any and all PAC meetings to provide feedback and be involved in school improvement efforts. Please join us in partnership to discuss current successes, challenges, and next steps as we continue to make R5 be the place where all learners can succeed.

Please reach out to RSVP, if you have any questions, or need additional information. We hope you can join us!

FEBRUARY 19TH @ 11:30
R5 CONFERENCE ROOM



If you need help outside of regular school hours and this is a crisis situation, please use one of the following resources:

- Call 9-1-1 Emergency Line
- Safe2Tell - call 1-877-542-SAFE to submit an anonymous report to law enforcement and school administration
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline @ 988lifeline.org or call 1-800-273-TALK
- Colorado Crisis: 1-844-493-8255 or Text: 38255



R5 High School 2026 GRADUATION INFORMATION



Here are some critical dates for graduation - mark your calendars!

- February 4th, 2026 @ 9:45 AM - SENIOR CLASS MEETING - Meet in the Harry Butler Boardroom (at R5) at 9:45 a.m. You will hear important details about graduation and be voting on your class song and motto. A representative from Josten's will be available for questions regarding caps, gowns, rings, and special orders.

Your parents and/or guardians are welcome to attend this meeting.

- February 4th, 2026 DEADLINE - Parents and/or students are responsible for purchasing learner caps and gowns. You can order your basic package from Jostens at www.jostens.com or you can call 970-242-5030.
- April 24th, 2026 DEADLINE - DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING YOUR GRADUATION SPEECH. If you would like to make a speech at graduation, please prepare a 3-5 minute speech, type it out, and email your submission to your ELA Teacher: Ms. Casey @ sutton.casey@d51schools.org, Ms. Jay @ candace.Jay@d51schools.org, or Mr. Morales @ mario.morales@d51schools.org by April 25th.
- May 1st, 2026 DEADLINE - LAST DAY TO TAKE WORKKEYS TEST. ***THIS IS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION.***
- May 5th, 2026 DEADLINE - All assignments that are due for credit, must be turned in to your teachers by 3:00 p.m. No exceptions will be made for this deadline.
- May 5th, 2026 DEADLINE - ALL SCHOOL FEES MUST BE PAID PRIOR TO GRADUATION! - Please check with the front office to find out how much you may owe. You will not be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies until your fees are paid in full.

- WEEK BEFORE GRADUATION - Pick up your cap and gown from the front office at R5. ***TAKE IT OUT OF THE PACKAGE AND HANG IT UP!*** To remove creases: put it in the dryer (on a low setting) for a short time with a wet washcloth.

- MONDAY, MAY 11TH, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m. @ Stocker Stadium - GRADUATION REHEARSAL

➤ ***WEAR YOUR CAP AND GOWN (THE GRADUATING CLASS PHOTO WILL BE TAKEN, YOU MUST BE IN CAP AND GOWN TO BE IN THE PHOTO).***

Adornments may be worn with your cap and gown but they must comply with the revised D51 dress code [Board Policy JICA](#). Any adornments or cap decorations that do not comply will be removed and not allowed in the ceremony.

PRACTICE IS MANDATORY IF YOU WANT TO WALK IN THE CEREMONY

Once rehearsal is finished, graduate speakers will meet at the stage to go over and practice their speeches.

- TUESDAY, MAY 12TH, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m. - GRADUATION DAY!

➤ ***WEAR YOUR CAP AND GOWN - REQUIRED FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS***

LEARNERS: Please dress professionally. Wear long pants, dresses or skirts, and nice shoes

⇒ Arrive at Stocker Stadium by 8:30 a.m. for the Graduation Line-Up - Don't be late! ⇐



R5 High School

2026 INFORMACIÓN DE GRADUACIÓN

¡He aquí algunas fechas importantes para la graduación, así que apúntelas en su calendario!



- 4 de febrero de 2026 - REUNIÓN DE ESTUDIANTES DEL GRADO 12 (Senior) a las 9:45 AM en Harry Butler Boardroom (at R5). Escucharán detalles importantes sobre la graduación y votarán por la canción y el lema de su clase. Un representante de Josten's estará disponible para responder preguntas sobre gorra, capa, anillos y pedidos especiales.

Sus padres y/o tutores son bienvenidos a asistir a esta reunión.

4 de febrero de 2026 FECHA LÍMITE - Los padres o estudiantes son responsables de comprar los gorros y capas de graduación del estudiante. Usted puede ordenar su paquete básico de www.jostens.com o puede llamar al 970-242-5030.

- 24 DE ABRIL de 2026 FECHA LÍMITE - FECHA LÍMITE PARA ENTREGAR TU DISCURSO DE GRADUACIÓN. Si deseas dar un discurso en la ceremonia de graduación, por favor prepara un discurso de 3 a 5 minutos, escríbelo y envíe su versión final por correo electrónico a su maestra(o) de inglés (ELA) Srta. Casey @ sutton.casey@d51schools.org, Srta. Jay @ candace.Jay@d51schools.org, o Sr. Morales @ mario.morales@d51schools.org antes del 25 de abril.
 - 1^{er} de mayo de 2026 – FECHA LÍMITE. Último día para tomar el examen workkeys. **¡ESTO ES REQUISITO PARA GRADUARSE!**
 - 5 de mayo de 2026 – FECHA LÍMITE - TODAS LAS TAREAS QUE SE ENTREGAN PARA CRÉDITO DEBEN SER ENTREGADAS A TUS MAESTROS ANTES DE LAS 3:00 p. m. No se harán excepciones con respecto a esta fecha límite.
 - 5 de mayo de 2026 – FECHA LÍMITE - ALL ¡TODAS LAS CUOTAS ESCOLARES DEBEN ESTAR PAGADAS ANTES DE LA GRADUACIÓN! Por favor, consulta con la oficina principal para saber cuánto debe. No se le permitirá participar en la ceremonia de graduación hasta que sus cuotas estén pagadas en su totalidad.
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- UNA SEMANA ANTES DE LA GRADUACIÓN - Recoja su capa y gorro de graduación en la oficina de la escuela R5. **¡EN CASA, SÁQUELOS DEL PAQUETE Y CUÉLGUELOS!** Para quitar las arrugas: póngalos en la secadora (a temperatura baja) junto con un paño/trapo húmedo durante pocos minutos.

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- LUNES, 11 DE MAYO DE 2025 - PRÁCTICA DE CEREMONIA DE GRADUACIÓN en Stocker Stadium a las 9:00 a.m.

➤ **USE SU GORRO Y CAPA (SE TOMARÁ LA FOTO DE LA CLASE DE GRADUADOS, DEBE ESTAR CON GORRO Y CAPA PARA SALIR EN LA FOTO).**

Se pueden usar adornos con la gorra y la capa, pero deben cumplir con la [Póliza JICA de mesa directiva escolar](#) y el código de vestimenta del D51. Cualquier adorno o decoración del gorro que no cumpla con esta norma será retirado y no se permitirá en la ceremonia.

LA PRÁCTICA ES OBLIGATORIA SI DESEA PARTICIPAR EN LA CEREMONIA

Una vez finalizado el ensayo, los oradores que se gradúan, se reunirán en el escenario para repasar y practicar sus discursos.

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- MARTES, 12 DE MAYO DE 2026 a las 9:00 a.m. - ¡DÍA DE LA GRADUACIÓN!

➤ **USE SU GORRO Y CAPA - OBLIGATORIO PARA TODOS LOS PARTICIPANTES**

ESTUDIANTES: Por favor, vistan de manera profesional. Usen pantalones largos, vestidos o faldas, y zapatos elegantes.

⇒ Por favor llegue a Stocker Stadium a las 8:30 a.m. para formar una fila para la ceremonia de graduación! ⇐



ATTENTION SENIORS!

Please submit your senior photos to Mrs. Casey's email at scasey@d51schools.org by March 2.

You can send two pictures to be used and a quote that is meaningful or inspirational.

If you wish to purchase a tribute ad, you can do that this year. Half-pages are \$45 and quarter pages are \$25. You must have the tribute ad paid for before it will be added to the yearbook. Deadlines for Tribute Ads is Feb 2.

Yearbooks cost \$25. Order yours now!

IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH ANYTHING AT R5, PLEASE VISIT THE R5 WEBSITE OR CALL THE MAIN OFFICE AT 970-254-6880 DURING THE HOURS OF 8:00A.M. - 3:00P.M. M-F

OUR STAFF IS COMMITTED EACH AND EVERY DAY TO THEIR WORK, OUR MISSION:

R5 USES RESTORATIVE PRACTICES AND PROJECT-BASED LEARNING TO SUPPORT LEARNERS IN BECOMING THRIVING CITIZENS. R5 IS COMMITTED TO ENSURING ALL LEARNERS WILL DEVELOP CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS, CULTURAL AND SELF-AWARENESS, AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP THROUGH AN INDIVIDUALIZED WHOLE-PERSON APPROACH, COMMANDING HIGH EXPECTATIONS AND PROVIDING MASTERY LEARNING WITH A COMPASSIONATE, RESPONSIVE, AND COLLABORATIVE ENVIRONMENT. . . .

TO GUARANTEE THAT 100% OF OUR GRADUATES WILL BE POST-SECONDARY READY.