



DEER VALLEY
Unified School District

Desert Sky Middle
5130 W Grovers
Glendale, AZ 85308
P 602-467-6500
F 602-467-6580
desertsky.dvusd.org



Superintendent
Curtis Finch, PhD

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

March 27, 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Believe it or not, eighth grade promotion is not too far off! Our hope is that every student has the opportunity to participate in the promotion ceremony, so we want to clarify academic and behavioral expectations while also providing information about the actual ceremony.

Academic and Behavioral Expectations

According to the district's promotion and retention standards, students must pass all classes (based upon the yearly average) in which they are enrolled in order to be promoted or participate in promotion activities. Those who may be academically ineligible to participate in the event are being monitored through the Counseling Office.

Behavioral expectations must also be met. Depending on the severity of any administrative referral incident, a decision will be made by administration regarding whether or not the student will participate in the promotion ceremony. Any student owing money for overdue library books or missing or damaged chrome books may also be excluded.

Ceremony

The event will be held the evening of May 20th at 7:00 pm at Deer Valley High School on their football field.. The ceremony will be brief, about 45-60 minutes. Students need to arrive at DVHS by 6:15 pm and will gather on the east side of the football field in alphabetical order by teacher. Parents and guests may then be seated. Please help us to conduct a dignified promotion ceremony, recognizing our students' achievements. Be courteous of others in the audience and remain seated during the ceremony, even if videotaping. **May 20th will be an 11:35 am early release for our 8th grade students.** They will turn in any remaining Chromebooks.

PROMOTION DRESS CODE

Dress slacks or dress jeans, dress shirts, dresses, skirts and blouses, or pants outfit.

- *Due to the artificial turf field – spiked/stiletto high heels are **NOT ALLOWED.**
- *Wedge, block or kitten (small) heels are acceptable.
- *Skirt length to be respectable, no mini, no floor length formal
- *No backless, no midriff, low cut or strapless dresses/blouses
- *Suits/sport jackets are not required and are optional. No tuxedos
- *No shorts, casual t-shirts or hats
- *Undergarments of any kind may not be exposed.

Again, we are all very excited to be a part of the promotion ceremony as we send our eighth graders off to continue their educational journey. Thank you in advance for supporting your student's academic and behavioral expectations. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the school office at 602-467-6500.

Guest seating at the stadium is done on a first come, first served basis. Tickets are not issued and there is no restriction on the number of guests attending, as there is ample seating. Please keep in mind that this is an outdoor activity and you will need to prepare accordingly. Guest seating is in the stadium bleachers. Please note that DSMS, DVHS and the DVUSD are not responsible for any dry cleaning bills should your clothes become soiled while sitting on the bleachers. There is limited handicap seating in front of the bleachers, so if you have a handicapped person in your party, please make sure you get there early enough to obtain seating.

Sincerely,

Scott Larter, Principal

Tyler Bachler, Assistant Principal

Graduating lifelong learners who will successfully lead, compete, and positively impact the world.