



Desert Mountain High School

CEEB Code: 030396

School Profile 2026-2027



Principal: Mr. John Andrews

Assistant Principals: T.J. Buckley, Cher Fesenmaier, Kristen Tindall, Luke Strohmeyer

Counselors: Jonathan Brechner, Chris Helder, Michelle Okun, Veva Pacheco, Marie Reilly, Lead

College and Career Center: Jenny Dorsch

Class of 2026 Data

- 92% of DMHS graduates attended a post-secondary institution.
- 84% 4-Year College
- 15% 2 Year College or Trade School
- 5% Military or Workforce

Standardized Testing

SAT Mean Scores for class of **2026** - 1269
Evidence Based Reading & Writing -629
Math -640

ACT Mean Scores for class of **2026**

Composite - 23.2,, Reading - 23.7, Math - 23.1

Class of 2026 AP Scholars

- 95 AP Scholars
- 52 AP Scholars with Honors
- 96 AP Scholars with Distinction
- 1296 AP tests administered
- 96% earned 3 or better
- 53% earned a 5 on one or more tests

Class of 2026 National Merit Scholars / Awards

- 7 National Merit Scholars
- 15 National Merit Finalists
- 21 National Merit Commended Scholars
- 1 CocaCola Scholar
- 2 Flinn Semi-Finalists

Advanced Coursework, IB

- 32 Honors Courses offered
- 24 AP Courses offered
- 27 IB Courses offered
- 17.5% enrolled in IB or MYP
- 93% of IB Diploma candidates received their diplomas

School and the Community

Desert Mountain High School opened in 1995 and is located in North Scottsdale, serving approximately 1900 students in grades 9-12. Desert Mountain is ranked 20th within Arizona and #1 high school in Scottsdale by US News and World Report. Students have the opportunity to take AP coursework and exams. The AP participation rate at Desert Mountain is 33%.

In 1998 Desert Mountain became an International Baccalaureate (IB) member school and is the sole IB program for the District. In 2022 Desert Mountain received accreditation for the IB Middle Years Programme. We offer a choice of standard, honors, Advanced Placement, IB Middle Years Programme and IB Diploma Programme classes.

Total enrollment in 2026 is 1,892. The total minority enrollment is 31% and 5% are economically disadvantaged. DMHS is 1/5 high schools in Scottsdale Unified School District and offers programs for gifted, English Language Learners and Special Education students. Extensive Career and Technological programs are also available through a partnership with East Valley Institute Technology. Dual enrollment courses are offered through a partnership with Maricopa Community Colleges.

Desert Mountain has state of the art facilities including a 1200 seat auditorium, newly renovated football field, and 18,000 square foot multi-use library.

Accreditation

Desert Mountain High School is accredited through COGNIA and given an A rating by the Arizona Department of Education. DM sports participate in the Arizona Interscholastic Association.

School Year

The school year consists of 180 days. Semester classes meet for 54 minutes, five days per week. There are two semesters in a school year and students receive .5 credit per class each semester.

Faculty

The Desert Mountain faculty includes five administrators, nine professional support staff members and 89 teachers, of whom 77 hold Master's Degrees and two hold Doctorates.

Extracurricular Activities

Desert Mountain students participate in Student Government, National Honor Society, performing arts, athletics at the freshmen, junior varsity and varsity levels, as well as over fifty student clubs and organizations. Our football, girls swim/dive and girls tennis were 2025-2026 state champions, and our boys golf and girls tennis doubles were state runners up.

Demographics

The Desert Mountain community is made up of a diverse group of students representing 54 countries and 34 spoken languages. Our demographic include 12.5% Asian, 11.2% Hispanic, 3% Black/African American, .8% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.3% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, 3.60% two or more and 68.6% White.

Graduation Requirements

A total of **22** credits are required to graduate: Class of 2024

English - 4 credits

Social Studies - 3 credits

Mathematics - 4 credits

Science - 3 credits

Physical Education - 1 credit

Fine Arts or Career Technical Education - 1 credit

Electives 6 - credits

Required State Civic Exam

Grading Scale

Grade	Range	GPA
A	90%-100%	4
B	80%-89%	3
C	70%-79%	2
D	60%-69%	1
F	0 - 59%	0

Grade Point Average and Ranking System

Class rank is calculated on a weighted academic cumulative GPA for all courses grades 9 through 11. Honors, AP and IB classes carry a weighted grade value: an A=5 points, B=4 points, C=3 points. Official ranking is reported at the end of the student's sixth semester. Scottsdale Unified Schools uses the Latin Honors Recognition scale which is determined by a student's Weighted Overall GPA. Summa Cum Laude = 4.500+, Magna Cum Laude = 4.250-4.499, Cum Laude = 3.750-4.429

The Following Classes are Weighted in Computing Class Rank:

Honors Courses

H English I	H Physics First	H Spanish II	H Mandarin II	Wind Ensemble H
IB MYP H English I	H Biology I	IB MYP H Spanish II	H Mandarin III	Symphonic Orchestra H
H English II	H Chemistry I	H Spanish III	H Mandarin IV	Senior Art Seminar
IB MYP H English II	H Human Physiology/Anatomy	IB MYP H Spanish III	Dance IV H	Dance Performance H
H Geometry/Trigonometry	IB MYP H World History	H Spanish IV	H Drawing & Painting III	
H Algebra I	IB MYP H American / AZ History	H Japanese II	H Fashion & Textiles III	
IB MYP Math Inquiry & Reasoning	H French II	H Japanese III	Advanced Photo/Digital H III	
H Trig/Pre-Calculus	H French III	H Japanese IV	H Sculpture 3-D Art III	
H Calculus III/Differential Equations	H French IV	H Italian III	Theater IV Advanced H	

Advanced Placement Courses (AP)

AP English Language & Composition	AP Mandarin V	AP World History	AP Psychology	AP Trig Pre-Calc
AP English Literature & Composition	AP French and Language Culture	AP Biology	AP Computer Science	AP Drawing
AP Spanish Language & culture	AP US History	AP Chemistry	AP Statistics	AP 2D Art & Design
AP Spanish V	AP Government & Politics	AP Environmental Science	AP Calculus AB	AP 3D Art & Design
AP Mandarin & Culture	AP Macroeconomics	AP Physics	AP Calculus BC	

International Baccalaureate Courses (IB)

IB HL English (11th)	IB SL Business	IB SL Biology	IB SL Spanish	IB SL Art Design
IB HL English (12th)	IB HL Math A&A	IB HL Biology	IB HL Spanish	IB HL Art Design
IB SL 20th Century World History	IB SL Math A&A	IB SL Chemistry	IB SL French	IB SL Dance
IB HL History	IB SL Math A&I	IB HL Chemistry	IB SL Mandarin	IB Extended Essay
IB SL Economics	IB SL Theater	IB SL Physics	IB SL Music	IB Theory of Knowledge
IB SL Psychology	IB HL Theater	IB SL Comp Science	IB HL Music	