

Dec 2008  
Volume 7-Issue

# WOLF PACK PRIDE



Desert Mountain High School - 12575 E. Via Linda - Scottsdale, AZ 85259 - 480-484-7000



## Desert Mountain High School



### December

December 3	Early Release	
December 4 & 5	Just Dance	7pm - 9pm
December 6	SAT Testing	7:30am
December 11	Band Winter Concert	7pm
December 12	Getting to know Greg	8:30am
December 17-19	Semester Exams*	Adjusted Schedule
December 22-Jan 2	Winter Break	

### January

January 16	Rock Revelation	7pm
January 20	Kaplan SAT Prep	5pm
January 24	SAT Testing	7:30am
January 29-30	Playfest	7pm

### GRADUATION 2009

Mark your calendar for

Wednesday, May 27th at 8:00pm in the DMHS Stadium

For all school information and daily announcements  
check our school website at  
<http://desertmountain.susd.org/>

### Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Americans with Disabilities Act Notice of Non-Discrimination

Applicants for admission and employment, students, parents, persons with disabilities, employees and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the Scottsdale Unified School District are hereby notified that this school does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, age or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning DMHS' compliance with the regulation implementing Title VI, Title IX, The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 5074 is directed to contact Dr. Fox at 480-484-7008

If any parent, family member or guest needs accommodations to attend and/or participate in a school meeting or function, please contact Dr. Fox at 480-484-7008 at least 2-3 business days prior to the event.

Need to contact the PTO  
[desertmountainpto@yahoo.com](mailto:desertmountainpto@yahoo.com)



We hosted our first ever DMHS Expo on November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008. This was great opportunity to showcase our wonderful campus, staff, and programs. Several middle school students and parents were able to tour the school and meet with our faculty, counselors, and administrators.

This is an exciting time of year at DMHS in both the athletic and performance arenas. Basketball, Wrestling, and Soccer are beginning what we hope are very successful and fun-filled seasons. In addition, some wonderful Performing Arts events in the months of November and December include Coffee House, Improv Nights, Mystery Dinner Theatre, and Band and Choir Concerts. Numerous fundraisers will be held to assist the Choir with their trip to Carnegie Hall in March.

DMHS Educators continue to challenge students in their classrooms. They promote high academic standards and academic achievement. Please encourage your students to challenge themselves scholastically. Students continue to work towards preparation for first semester finals by using the "3 Rs": Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships. Now is a great time to talk to them about future goals and ambitions. I recently attended a Differentiated Instructional Practices Conference with nine of our staff members representing all of our departments. In our continued effort to maximize learning for all students, these nine staff members will share the valuable concepts learned at an upcoming in-service.

Don't forget, there is still time to make your 2008 Arizona School Tax Credit Donation. This can be done online through our website. As always, DMHS is extremely proud of our students, parents, and staff. We consider our community members to be part of the Wolfpack family and appreciate your continued support. Thank you for your commitment to educational excellence.

Greg Milbrandt  
Principal

## From the PTO Co-Presidents...

Welcome to fall and the cooler weather - finally!

Thank you to all that have returned their PTO forms. This year it is *very important* that you return your E-News form because we are going "green" with our PTO Newsletter as well as all PTO communications. You can also sign up to receive E-News on our PTO website at [www.dmpto.org](http://www.dmpto.org). You should have received your first PTO Newsletter by mail but now all subsequent ones will be only available online - you will be notified via e-news communications when they are published. We only have 800 families that have signed up to receive E-News communications and still need the rest of our parent community to do so as well.

It is still not too late to join PTO. All of our forms are online at our website [www.dmpto.org](http://www.dmpto.org). Just click on, print out and send in. It is just that easy! All PTO membership donations are spent directly back into the school for your students and teachers. Any amount that you can contribute will be greatly appreciated!

The project grad fundraiser "Casino Night", scheduled for 11/21, has been cancelled due to lack of response. The proceeds from this event are what pay for PPG night in addition to the student donation of \$100. A letter to all senior parents will be mailed out soon to generate support for Project Grad night. This is such an important night for our graduating seniors that we would hate to have to scale back the night's activities significantly due to lack of support. Let's work together to keep our senior's safe on grad night! We are looking for prize donations, anything from gift cards to merchandise as well as monetary contributions. We can use anything!!

We would also like to thank all of our PTO volunteers, who without your help, we could not be a great PTO! We appreciate all your time and dedication.

We wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving!

Claire Harbottle  
Mauri Collins

## **Teacher Spotlight** **Kathy Anderson**

Walk into Kathy Anderson's classroom and it's a feast for your eyes. Colorful mosaic pots, unique artist's trees, pencil sketches, 3-D sculptures – they're all here on the walls and on the shelves, created by her students. Ms. Anderson teaches Visual Arts I, a gateway course that when successfully completed, enables DMHS students to advance in the fine arts program and take additional classes in the arts.

"I like that every so often I 'hook' a few students from Art I," confides Ms. Anderson. "They realize they like art and have a natural ability and end up taking one or more art classes from me during their high school careers."

Born and raised in Washington, DC, Ms. Anderson has lived in Arizona for 30 years. She's been here at DMHS for ten years, teaching Visual Arts 1, 3-D Design 1 and 2, 3-D Design 3-Honors and 3-D Design 4-AP.

"I've always loved art, even when I was young. It seemed logical to go into art as my career."

Ms Anderson holds an MFA from Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, OH, and a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction from ASU.

"When I was graduating from Baldwin-Wallace, I thought I was going to go into interior design, but then I received a teaching job offer. That one decision dictated the course of my career."

Ms. Anderson's teaching experience also includes instructing mentally-challenged adults, having worked for the non-profit Projects Arts Incorporated in Phoenix for seven years prior to coming to DMHS.

"Teaching high school kids is a piece of cake after the challenge of teaching severely mentally ill adults. But both jobs require patience, patience, and patience. Plus, you need to be open-minded and know which battles to pick. It's a bit like being a parent."

Speaking of parenting, Ms. Anderson has three grown sons of her own, one of whom lives with her with his wife and their two small children, ages 2 and 6.

"We have a busy house—three adults, two children, three dogs, two desert turtles and a tank of fish. That's why I rarely turn on my cell phone; I am surrounded by so much noise so much of the day that I like the quiet."

In her free time, which is rare as it is for any teacher, she likes to visit art galleries, art shows, travel and shop. She and other SUSD art instructors frequently travel together and last year they visited Spain and Portugal. Reading is another one of her hobbies and she's finishing *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle* at the moment, a selection from the Faculty Book Club.

"I enjoy watercolor painting as well, but finding the time to devote to it is next to impossible," she sighs.

Asked for advice for parents about the arts, Ms. Anderson states, "Teach your children that the arts are important – all the arts, not just the visual arts. They teach you to be objective and to see more than one side of something. Art can have a big influence in your life and can be very rewarding."

## **Scottsdale Unified School District**

### **Memorandum**

The asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requires all public and private elementary and secondary schools to inspect for asbestos in the school buildings and to submit a report (management plans) to the State of Arizona. AHERA also requires that the Local Education Agency (LEA) performs six month inspections and to notify all parties concerned of any changes or updates. Parent-employee must be made on a yearly basis.

The Scottsdale management plans are available for review in the Building Services office located at 9288 E. San Salvador Drive.

Your school's specific plans are available for review in the applicable school office. All abatement, repair work and the six-month surveys are contained within the Management plan File.

### **DECA**

DECA members will be attending the Western Region Leadership Conference being held in Phoenix, November 20-22. In addition they have begun preparation for the first competition of the year. Desert Mountain is hosting the other SUSD DECA students in a preliminary competition on December 4 in preparation for their Area competition on January 14 at Phoenix College. During these first events the members demonstrate their ability to sell a product/service in the career area they have selected. This is done after taking a general marketing knowledge test of the standards/proficiencies needs to be successful.

We are looking for individuals to act as judges as we prepare (December) and in January as the Central Area has invited the DECA members from Yuma and Casa Grande to join the Phoenix Union High School District, the Paradise Valley High Schools, Cave Creek High School, plus the programs in Payson and on the Indian Reservations. This will give out students more competition and better prepare them for the Arizona Career Development Conference in March. If you are able to assist please contact Juliann Trump at [jtrump@susd.org](mailto:jtrump@susd.org).

DECA is a member of the Desert Mountain Academic Booster Association (DECA-DMBAA) to provide a way to assist these students in raising funds for the travel events. If you are interested in joining the DM DECA Boosters, please contact. DMBAA- DECA Boosters Business and Marketing, DMHS, 12575 E. Via Linda, Scottsdale, AZ 85359. Or if you would, donate to the Marketing/DECA tax credit account. All assistance is appreciated.

Dear Parents,

As you know, every year Project Prevention Graduation plans a huge party for the graduating seniors directly following the graduation ceremony. This party is one of the most important events a senior will attend. Not only will they have a memorable "last" night with their classmates, but this event keeps them off the streets on one of the most dangerous nights for driving. Our primary goal is to keep them in a safe and alcohol/drug free environment while having fun. It is our sincere hope that we do not have to scale back on some of the wonderful events that we offer for that night.

Although we only ask for a donation of \$100 per senior, the expense for this event costs much more. To offset rising costs, we put on a yearly fundraiser to cover the additional expenses. The economy is a factor but attendance has been waning at the fundraising events for the last few years. Unfortunately, this year the November 21<sup>st</sup> "Casino Night" **has been cancelled due to a lack of interest and limited response**.

**We need everyone's help.** We want to give the Senior's a safe, memorable and fun evening but we need financial support to do so. A team of volunteers has worked tirelessly to try to make fundraising successful so at this point we are only looking forward for proactive ideas to bring in dollars for the night. We are also looking for donations and volunteers. We hope to have the support to re-schedule the fundraising event in the spring. We invite the entire DMHS community to attend. Many parents start to volunteer and support PPG before their child becomes a Senior. When your child is a Senior, you can sit back, relax and enjoy all of the festivities knowing that there are parents volunteering, planning and organizing this event since you "put in your time".

For those who have generously donated and/or paid for your Senior we offer our sincerest gratitude and thanks. A payment form is enclosed for your convenience if you have not had the opportunity to sign your senior up for the party as we need to know as soon as possible. If you can't remember if you have done this already, you can click onto our website [www.dmpto.org](http://www.dmpto.org), click on the link on the front page to see a list of those names who have already signed up. This will allow us to determine where, if needed, we will have to scale back on what we can offer to the seniors that evening. We would appreciate your taking out a moment to fill out the survey below and either mailing it back to us at the school, Attn: PPG, dropping it off at the office or contacting us directly to help us find additional ways to fund this event.

Thank you, in advance, for your generosity and support of our Seniors!

DMPTO Co-PTO Presidents

Claire Harbottle - [claireh@cox.net](mailto:claireh@cox.net)

Mauri Collins - [mauricoll@yahoo.com](mailto:mauricoll@yahoo.com)

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I will spearhead an effort to raise money for the cause \_\_\_\_\_

I am donating additional money \_\_\_\_\_

I will underwrite a portion of the expense \_\_\_\_\_

I will attend a fundraising event in the Spring \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**Fashion/Textile classes are in need of some odds & ends donations:**

Buttons, beads	overlockers/sergers
Ribbons, lace	silk scarves
Yarns, threads	vintage patterns
Pure wool	kitchen sieves
Pure wool sweaters for felting	drying racks
Knitting needles & crochet hooks	wallpaper
Embroidery loops	mat board
Fabrics	silk flowers
Old jewelry	volunteer models
Wire	interesting papers
Fishing line, dental floss	Small spray bottles
Plastic bins for storage	Dressmaking forms
Waxed paper	Fashion magazines-old & new
Freezer paper	Plastic bins for storage
Nails	

Please contact Mrs. Wilkins if you can donate.

**Visual Arts II, III H, IV, 3-D Design, and IB are also in need of donations:**

Wallpaper, fabric samples  
Ribbons, lace  
Still life objects  
Wire  
Yarns  
Beads  
Broken dishes, tile and Grout  
Please contact Ms. DeCarlo / Ms. Anderson if you can donate

**Have you gotten any ENEWS from the PTO? Well if you have not received any this year, you are not on our list. We have sent out 3 ENEWS this year already! This will be the final newsletter that will be mailed home. All communications will be done via ENEWS.**

**Please visit our website at [www.dmpto.org](http://www.dmpto.org) and click, under navigation Sign up for ENEWS and Newsletters. Its fast and easy!**

**Remember, if you don't register, you will not know what is happening at DMHS. We do not sell or use your email address other than PTO and Desert Mountain information. All emails will be purged at the end of the year.**

## From the PTO Shop to Earn/Shop to Earth

These are two websites that we have contracted with to support DMHS. Each time you use the below link and shop, DMHS directly receives a percentage of monies spent.

It is an easy way for you to be able to support DMHS without any inconvenience to you. You can shop from home, at your leisure and DMHS PTO will earn a percentage of your dollars spent. These are small ways that you can make a difference that add up to dollars for DMHS!

Our newest venture is:

[www.shoptoearn.net/desertmountainpto](http://www.shoptoearn.net/desertmountainpto)

At this site, you will find hundreds of stores from:

Gift Certificates	Travel
Womans	Mens
Baby	kids
Home	Education
Beauty	Food
Books	Toys
Electronics	many, many more

There are so many to choose from! Take a look. There is NO registration. All you need to do is simply click on the above link and visit the stores. Shop to Earn will track all of your purchases. It's that easy!

Why not do all of your holiday shopping through this site and you support DHMS!

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Shop To Earn has a large section devoted (Shop to Earth) to companies and products that are "Green". You can even purchase gift cards, and again, DMHS PTO will get a percentage back! Support our environment while supporting DMHS. You can pass on this site to family and friends, anyone can purchase from this site.

## Other ways for you to support DMHS

Do you shop at Safeway? Please register your card with DMHS. A percentage of the money you spend goes directly to our PTO and school. Please go to [www.dmppto.org](http://www.dmppto.org) and click on the forms page to register your card.

Another way is [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) and register your credit cards & Macy's card. When you shop at participating stores, DMHS PTO will receive a percentage of your purchases. Use our ID #6650135 to get started. All cards must be RENEWED ANNUALLY.

For additional fundraising please visit:

<http://dmppto.org/support.php>

### Project Prevention Graduation 2009

Did you know that **graduation night** could be the **deadliest night** in a teenager's life? This is evident not only by local tragic auto accidents, but also by these startling national statistics:

- Teenagers are involved in more than one-third of **alcohol-related** car accidents.
- More teenage accidents and fatalities occur on High School Graduation Night than any other time of the year.

**Project Prevention Graduation** is an all night party that provides a **safe** environment to celebrate this memorable milestone. It's a **drug-free** event, held exclusively for the 2009 graduates of DMHS. Packed with awesome activities guaranteed to keep the grads rocking, it's the last time the class of 2009 will spend together before they fly the coop!

This event is funded entirely by the generosity of DMHS parents, the community and local businesses.

Not yet **registered**? It's easy!

- Print and fill out the PPG both forms (available at [www.dmppto.org](http://www.dmppto.org) )
- Turn the forms and payment into the office.

Thank you for your support!  
PPG Team 2009  
Carolyn Attal (480) 419-9272

## Giving Parents the Power!

Are you afraid your teenager is using **drugs**?  
If so, how do you find out **for sure**?

As your School Resource Officer, many parents have come to me and voiced these concerns. In the past, I steered them to Valley drug testing centers. But there is now a way to get your questions answered **QUICKLY** and at a **LOW COST**.

A company called **LEAD** (Law Enforcement Against Drugs) will provide me with drug testing kits at cost, which I will make available to DMHS parents.

A **4 Panel Drug Test Kit** costs just **\$15**. It tests for: Opiates/Morphine, Methamphetamine, Marijuana, or Cocaine.

There are also **\$5 Test Kits** that detect: Depressants, Stimulants, Ecstasy, Oxycodone, or Alcohol

Basic Test Kits sell for **double** these prices at local drug stores.

### How Does This Program Work?

If you suspect your child has ingested drugs, or simply want the test on hand for preventative use, I will provide you with the appropriate kit, along with drug information and where to go for additional help. Because I am providing these kits at cost, all monies collected will be used to replenish the supply of kits. Your information will be kept confidential from school personnel and from the police (other than me).

My stance has always been **PREVENTION** before **INTERVENTION**. By making these testing kits available for immediate use, I hope to empower the parents of our community with knowledge, rather than suspicions. If there is a chance to end the use of drugs before a child ends up in trouble, I am willing to try.

If you feel you are in need of this service, please call or email me.

Officer Rob Katzaroff  
(480) 484-7012  
rkatzaroff@susd.org

## PTO Board Meeting Dates

Please mark your calendars for the following dates. Meetings start at 9am in the conference room (across from the Nurses office) at DMHS. Everyone is welcome to attend!

December 9th  
January 13th  
February 10th  
March 17th  
April 14th  
May TBA



Need to contact us, email us at  
[desertmountainpto@yahoo.com](mailto:desertmountainpto@yahoo.com)

## Varsity Cheer awarded bid to Nationals

Desert Mountain Varsity Cheer completed in the Universal Cheerleading Association's Competition, Saturday November 1<sup>st</sup> at the Dodge Theater in Phoenix where they placed first in their division and qualified for a bid to the National High School Cheerleading Championship (NHSCC). The NHSCC is the most prestigious cheerleading championship in the country.



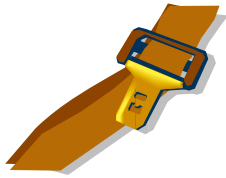
The NHSCC is held at the Walt Disney World® Resort in Orlando, Florida, and nationally televised on ESPN and ESPN2 to over 100 million homes and 32 countries nationwide each year. Congratulations girls. You deserve it!

## TAX CREDIT TIME!

Your tax credit donation can help Desert Mountain now!

Arizona taxpayers may receive a tax credit of up to \$200 for individual filers and \$400 for married filers. You claim the credit when you file your 2008 state tax return. The school must receive the funds by December 31.

[Click here to pay online or print off the tax credit form.](#)



### Wear your seatbelt: It could save your Life!

Nationally, teens represent less than 7 percent of the driving population but account for more than 13 percent of drivers involved in fatal motor vehicle crashes (National Transportation Safety Board, Safety Alert). In the past three years, 267 young people died in Arizona traffic crashes, and 37 percent of them were not buckled (Fatality Analysis Reporting System, U.S. Department of Transportation). According to the 2005 Arizona Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 14 percent of ninth through twelve grade students never or rarely wore a safety belt while riding in a car driven by someone else.

Because of statistics like these, the Teen CERT club is participating in the Battle of the Belt. Our goal is to educate the student and parent community on the importance of wearing seatbelts – ALL THE TIME!. Please help us out by wearing your seatbelt whenever you get in the car and make sure your kids do the same.

Officer Katzaroff

Desert Mountain High School hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual AIA Spiritline State Qualifiers on November 22, 2008. The Wolves Varsity Cheer and Pom and Spiritlines competed at this event.



The 2009 AIA Spiritline State Championship will be held January 17, 2009, at Tim's Toyota Center in Prescott Valley, Arizona

Starting your holiday shopping early? Why not shop from home and support DMHS at the same time! There are hundreds of stores to shop from. Each purchase, DMHS PTO receives a percentage that is directly spent at DMHS.

Visit [www.shoptoearn.net/desertmountainpto](http://www.shoptoearn.net/desertmountainpto)

### Project Grad is looking for boxers

At PPG, boxer bingo is one of the more popular events. We need around 500 pairs of new boxers as prizes. While out holiday shopping, if you would like to purchase them and donate them to PPG, we would surely appreciate it! Please remember that the boxers need to be in accordance with our dress code (no profanity, smoking or alcohol advertisements).

We are also looking for someone who has a contact with Sherriff Joe or his office. We would love to get some pink boxers. We can use all sizes.

Please drop off your boxers in the office marked "PPG"



### **NEED HELP WITH MATH?**

If you would like some one-on-one help with Math, stop in the Math Lab in room 5121 on Tuesdays from 3-4pm; or Fridays from 7:15-8:00am. There will be a DMHS Math teacher there to help you. No appointment is necessary and the sessions are FREE!



## DMHS Band

### DMHS Band performs at the Komen Race for the Cure

The Marching Wolves of Desert Mountain High School were honored to play at the Komen Race for the Cure held in Phoenix. The band started each of the races and also played as each participant ran by. The response was excellent and the band has been asked to perform again next year.

### DMHS performs at the Special Olympics Closing Ceremonies

The DMHS Marching Band performed at the closing ceremonies of the Arizona Special Olympics. The ceremonies were held at Surprise Stadium where the band played the Star Spangled Banner and their "Pirates" program to the delight of the athletes and the crowd. DMHS Marching Band receives an "Excellent" at the ASU Band Day

The DMHS Marching Band performed their "Pirates" program at the ASU Band Day at Sun Devil Stadium. The band received an "Excellent" rating which qualified the band for the State competition.

### Prius Raffle by the DMHS Band Boosters

As the major fundraising event of the fall term, the DMHS Band Boosters are raffling off a 2008 Prius. The tickets are only \$20 each or 3 for \$50. There is also a \$6,000 second prize and \$2,000 third prize. Only 5000 tickets are being sold. Please see the raffle rules and regulations on the Band Boosters web site: [www.dmhsband.org](http://www.dmhsband.org).

Please contact Mike Baranack at [mike@baranack.com](mailto:mike@baranack.com) or Kyle Jacobs at [kjacob@CompassAtoZ.com](mailto:kjacobs@CompassAtoZ.com) or [kylejacobs0302@aim.com](mailto:kylejacobs0302@aim.com) if you would like to buy tickets.

### DMHS Band to perform at State Festival

This year's Division I Arizona Marching Band State Festival will be held on Saturday, Nov 8 at Glendale Community College. The DMHS Marching Band will be performing at 2:45pm. Please come out and cheer on the band in their last performance of the season. Please email me at [mike@baranack.com](mailto:mike@baranack.com) or call me on (480) 273-2510 if you have any questions.



## NEW CTE Business 101 Course

DMHS will be piloting the new course offered for students in the 2009-2010 year if there are enough students that sign up during registration this school year.

The Business 101 course can help make your financial dreams come true! Students will learn how to apply technology to business practices that will advance their skills in an interactive lab.

Topics include: checking accounts, managing credit effectively, financial consequences of debt, risk management, and investment alternatives. Students will also design their own "Personal Finance Portfolio."

Email Pam Paul if you have any questions.  
[ppaul@susd.org](mailto:ppaul@susd.org)

### College & Career Center [dsterner@susd.org](mailto:dsterner@susd.org)

Students who are applying to Arizona State should make sure they get their applications submitted by December 1<sup>st</sup> for scholarship consideration. Students who apply after this deadline will be not eligible for the university scholarships regardless of their GPA. University of Arizona awards scholarships on an on-going basis and NAU students are encouraged to apply for scholarship consideration by 4/1/09.

Don't miss these very important deadline dates!

Over 70 colleges visited DMHS from August - October. College visits are winding down now but there are still a few events occurring in November. Be sure to check the College & Career website for all kinds of updated information on scholarships, leadership programs, workshops and general college information.

Two events in particular may be of interest - an Essay Writing Workshop for students to be held on Tuesday, 11/25 at 3:00 p.m. and a Financial Aid presentation to be held on Tuesday, December 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the DMHS auditorium (smaller pod). Families are welcome to the Financial Aid evening program. To RSVP, email [dsterner@susd.org](mailto:dsterner@susd.org)

## Are You an Easy Target?

Have you ever been the victim of theft? If so, you understand the feelings of outrage that comes with the loss of your property. Why would anyone take something that is not his or hers? Unfortunately, Desert Mountain High School is not immune to such crimes. As the officer on campus, I complete an investigation on each and every theft reported to me on this campus. Starting my seventh year as this school's resource officer, I have noticed a definite pattern in these incidents. This is what I have learned so far:

- The items that are most commonly stolen are IPODs, Cell Phones, and Wallets.
- 99% of the times, the items were left in an unsecured location.
- Most of the crimes occur in the locker rooms.
- The majority of victims are freshmen.
- All of these crimes are PREVENTABLE!

Question: Would you go to the mall and leave your purse or wallet in the food court? Of course not, but this is what is happening here at Desert Mountain HS. Students are leaving their valuables unsecured and then walking away from them. How hard is it for some hoodlum to walk up to a backpack, unzip it, grab anything of value and then leave? Apparently it hasn't been hard at all. Though many of these cases have been solved and the perpetrator prosecuted, the fact remains the precious little evidence is available to catch these criminals. Here is what I have done so far:

- I have investigated each theft.
- I have prosecuted all suspects that have been caught when the victims desired prosecution.
- I have worked with the PE coaches on steps they can take to limit thefts.
- I have spoken to the freshmen PE classes asking them to lock up their valuables or leave them at home.
- I have aired a public service announcement on DMTV regarding theft prevention.
- I have performed a crime analysis on theft crimes at the school to identify the problem areas.
- The school has restricted free movement of students by requesting that teachers give hall passes to all students out of class.
- The school, by design of the new larger lunchroom, has required all students remain in the cafeteria during lunch instead of wandering around the campus.

There have been many things done to help protect the property of the students on this campus, but yet thefts continue to happen on occasion. I now ask the parents to get involved in combating this problem. I have always found that when the school, parents, and police work together, positive results always are more common. Some suggestions for you regarding the thefts on this campus:

- Tell your students to leave their IPODs and Cell Phones at home.
- If they must bring these items to school, they should always be in their possession or locked in a locker.
- NEVER LEAVE THESE VALUABLES UNSECURED IN A BACKPACK (This includes leaving them in the locker room during class).
- Speak to your students about the seriousness of stealing and the consequences.
- If you suspect that your child is responsible for stealing items, work with me to help your child break this destructive behavior before it's too late.
- Engrave your name into your electronic devices (phones, IPODs, and calculators).
- Register your electronic products with the manufacturer so that the serial numbers are recorded.
- Report all thefts immediately to the front office or myself.
- Report all suspicious behavior to an adult - IMMEDIATELY!

Thank you for your help in this matter. With your help, I hope to eliminate the problem of theft on our campus.

Officer Rob Kataroff  
(480) 484 - 7012

## From the Counseling Department.....

**Parents and Students:** Registration for the 2009-10 school year is coming up quickly!! Materials will be distributed to current students beginning the week they return from winter break until the end of January. Check our DMHS website for specific grade level registration information. Please review and discuss class selections carefully with your students, as changes are not possible later. Students should make appointments with their counselors **now** if they have questions regarding their course selections.

The school website is <http://susd.desertmountain.schoolfusion.us/>

### Junior Students and Parents

The following scholarship opportunity is available to our students if they meet the criteria based on their passage of the AIMS tests. Students are allowed to retake their AIMS exams twice during their junior year in order to attempt to reach "Exceeds" if they did not exceed when they took it their sophomore year. They may not retake it their senior year. Students who wish to retake the exam need to sign up with Kathy Meister in the front office immediately.

### Arizona Board of Regents High Honors Endorsement Tuition Scholarship

In order to qualify for the tuition scholarship, students must be a graduate of an Arizona high school, have Arizona residency with lawful immigration status AND meet the following academic criteria:

#### Part 1

Students must complete all 16 Core Competency Courses by graduation with a B\* or better in each course **OR AN ACCEPTABLE SCORE (SEE TABLE 1) ON THE ADVANCE PLACEMENT (AP) TEST OR 4 ON THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) TEST FOR THAT SUBJECT AREA.** (16 Core Competency Courses: 4 units English; 4 units Math; 3 units Lab Science; 2 units Social Science; 2 units Foreign Language; and 1 unit Fine Arts, as defined by the Arizona Board of Regents Tri-University Admission requirements.)

\* A "C" in a weighted course (Honors or Advance Placement course) does not convert to a "B". The grade is as reflected on the student's transcript.

\* If a student receives a "C" in a core course he/she must complete one of the following options to remain eligible:

- 1) Retake the course and receive a "B" or better
- 2) Take an additional course in that subject matter and receive a "B" or better
- 3) Receive an Acceptable Score (See Table 1) On The Advance Placement (AP) Test Or 4 On The International Baccalaureate (I) Test For That Subject Area

AND

#### Part 2

Students must meet at least one of the following academic requirements:

Option 1 - **ELIGIBLE GPA:** A Cumulative GPA of 3.50 **IN THE 16 CORE COMPETENCY COURSES** on an un-weighted 4.00 scale **OR FOR THOSE DISTRICTS WHICH USE A 5.00 SCALE FOR IB/AP/HONORS COURSES, AN EQUIVALENT GPA ON A WEIGHTED SCALE THAT MEETS OR EXCEEDS THE VALUE IN TABLE 2.**

Option 2 - Class Rank: Student is in the top 5% of high school graduating class upon graduation.

AND

#### Part 3

Students must meet at least one of the following assessment options:

Option 1: **EXCEED Standards on all 3 of the AIMS Tests**

Option 2: **EXCEED Standards on 2 of the AIMS Tests and MEET Standards on 1 of the AIMS Tests. Additionally, they would either need to receive at least a score of 3 on ANY two Advanced Placement tests or a score of at least 4 on ANY two International Baccalaureate exams.**

Qualified students will receive a full state university tuition waiver (cost of in-state tuition only) valid for one year following graduation from high school. The scholarship is renewable for an additional three years based upon university-determined criteria. The actual dollar amount of the scholarship will vary based upon the tuition charged by the state university in which they have enrolled.

\*The university may choose not to award a scholarship to any student who receives other scholarship assistance intended to cover the cost of tuition.

## Market Day

Date: Dec 5<sup>th</sup> (Friday)

Time: 10:15-12:50

Location: Desert Mountain High School - Main Mall area

Desert Mountain High School will put on its once a semester Market Day, on Dec. 5th

Market Day is when students from Economics class discard theory and textbooks and discover, first hand, the joy and disappointment of the free market.

Students, in teams, create a product or service, order inventory and are given three lunch periods to create enthusiasm for their product, sell it, collect the money and calculate their gain or loss.

Market day has been a tradition at DMHS for over 10 years. Students earn or lose money based solely on what the marketplace (students, teachers and staff) thinks of their idea. Items are available for purchase.

The school mall resembles something between a commercial shopping center and Persian bazaar. Students actively "market" their products to people going to their lunch or passing through on their way to class. In the cacophony of noise, learning is taking place.

It is a hands on experience that sucks the whole school in. It brings the real world of commerce to students who might otherwise have missed the exciting possibility of making money!

### SAT and ACT Test Dates

**SAT:**  
December, 6 2008  
January, 24  
March, 14  
May, 2  
June, 6

**ACT:**  
February, 7  
April, 4

### Drug Testing Kits

Are They...or Aren't They? Is your child changing? Slipping grades, depressed, anxious, reclusive, irritable, erratic - Just a phase or drug use? Knowing the answer can ease your fears or confirm your suspicions. Officer Katzaroff is offering low cost drug testing kits. Contact him at (480) 484 - 7012 or by email at [rkatzaroff@susd.org](mailto:rkatzaroff@susd.org) to place your order.

### Scottsdale Community College Honors Program Presidents' Scholarship

The Presidents' Scholarship, available to qualifying Maricopa County high school graduates, covers full-time tuition and fees up to 15 credits and is renewable for up to four semesters. There are two ways for students to qualify for this opportunity. Students must rank in the top 15% of his or her class during the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> semesters (cumulative), **OR** may qualify by attaining honors level scores on all three placement tests (writing, reading, and math). Please contact the Honors Program at 480-423-6525 or [honors@sccmail.maricopa.edu](mailto:honors@sccmail.maricopa.edu) for additional information.

*There are an unlimited number of scholarships awarded to qualifying students!*



**Best Buy in North Scottsdale** is proud to announce a partnership with Desert Mountain High School for this school year. For every \$25,000 in receipts turned by students and faculty from sales at the **North Scottsdale store on Pima Rd** the school will receive \$500 in gift cards.

Just ask for a duplicate receipt and turn it in to cashier at time of purchase.

These gift cards will be used for the school to buy technology and recognize students and teachers. We are also excited to announce the support of the faculty, as we will sponsor a teacher of the month award. And in addition, be on the lookout for special purchase programs for Desert Mountain families and faculty only on exciting products like game consoles and lap top computer.

It's easy.  
Tell your family and friends!

Please visit...  
For coupons for purchases at Best Buy

[Best Buy Coupon](#)