

# DESERT VISTA HIGH SCHOOL

16440 S. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85048  
(480) 706-7900 Fax (480) 706-7959

*Home of the Thunder*

## 2023-2024 School Profile

<https://www.tempeunion.org/desertvista>

CEEB Code 030-328

### School & Community

Desert Vista High School is a comprehensive public high school of approximately 3000 students building a bridge to excellence in academics. It is located in the Ahwatukee/Foothills section of Phoenix, Arizona. Accredited by AdvancEd, Desert Vista has students enrolled in grades 9-12. The freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes have approximately 699, 721, 738, and 696 students respectively. Based on the 2023 graduation class, 70% of the students are attending a four-year college or university, 15% attending a two-year college, and the remaining 15% pursuing full-time employment, military or vocational training.

### Graduation Requirements

A minimum of 23 credits (1 credit = 1 year)

	Credits
English	4.0
Math	4.0
Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 + 1 additional	
Lab Science	3.0
Life, Physical Science, and 3 <sup>rd</sup> lab science	
Social Studies	2.5
World History/Geography	
US/AZ History	
US/AZ Government (.5)	
Economics	0.5
Fine Art/CTE	2.0
Physical Education	1.0
Health	0.5
Electives	5.5

Desert Vista has two semesters consisting of two nine-week quarters and students can take six classes daily.

### Desert Vista Administration

**Stacy White**

*Principal*

**TJ Snyder**

*Academics*

**Jared Walther**

*Activities*

**Kim Higginbotham**

*Athletics*

### Desert Vista Counseling Office

**Kate Dowd**

*Department Chair*

*Gifted Classes of 2024 & 2027*

**Rory Ruelas**

*Grades 9-12 A-CI*

**Karen Hinds**

*Grades 9-12 Cm-G*

**Sarah Hollow**

*Grades 9-12 H-L*

**Mickey Krebs**

*Grades 9-12 M-Q*

**Helen Hale**

*Grades 9-12 R-Tr*

**Ricki Cassutt**

*Grades 9-12 Ts-Z*

*Gifted Classes of 2025 & 2026*

**Dixie Prosser**

*Office Assistant*

### COVID Information

**Spring 2020** Students completed the third quarter on March 6 and went on Spring Break. Students never returned to in person instruction. Semester letter grades were issued on May 20 based on third quarter grades with supplemental online instruction opportunities that allowed students to raise, but not lower, their March 6 letter grade. Graduation requirements were not changed.

**2020 - 2021** Instruction began Mon, Aug. 3 with families having two choices for their learning options--first semester fully online through our online program (Tempe Union Online) or in-person classes following provided Arizona Distance Learning guidelines, with instruction beginning virtually through Friday, Oct 2--the end of first quarter. Students enrolled in Tempe Union Online may have had to alter their course selections.

In-person students were instructed virtually (via Google Meetings) with teachers in Quarters 1 and 3, and students were allowed to meet with teachers either in person or virtually (via Google Meetings) in Quarters 2 and 4.

In either option, students will have unchanged graduation requirements, school calendars and school counselor services. All students will continue to earn traditional letter grades.

**Grading System:** A= 90-100%, B=80-89%, C=70-79%, D=60-69%, F=0-59%

\*D is lowest passing mark

\*\*Some AP and Honors classes use a 92% scale

# Curriculum/Honors Course Offerings

Class Levels: Courses are offered at the following levels: Regular, Dual Enrollment, Honors, Advanced Placement

**Honors / Advanced Placement (AP):** Honors and AP classes are designed for students demonstrating exceptional aptitude and achievement in the discipline and have demonstrated a desire to pursue the curriculum beyond the regular level.

**Dual Enrollment:** Courses are offered at Desert Vista for both college and high school credit. Depending on the course, college credit is awarded by either Rio Salado Community College.

## Advanced Placement Courses

Biology  
 Calculus AB / BC  
 Chemistry  
 Computer Science A  
 English Language and Composition  
 English Literature and Composition  
 Environmental Science  
 Human Geography  
 Physics C: Mechanics & Electricity and Magnetism  
 Psychology  
 Spanish Language  
 Statistics  
 US Government & Politics  
 US History  
 World History: Modern

## Class Rank and GPA

The number of classes taken to produce the students' grade point average (GPA) divides total grade points earned. Only semester grades are used in computing the GPA and corresponding rank in class. Class rank and GPA are reported on the official transcripts at the end of the seventh semester and are considered the final class rank. Administrative Assistant is not used when computing the GPA. Also, repeated classes do not earn credit. The higher grade earned in a repeated course is used in computing the GPA. Weighted rank points will be given to those courses underlined in the Registration Handbook, however, the GPA remains unweighted. The weighted GPA is computed on the transcript for informational purposes only and is not officially reported by the school. Weighted rank points will not be given for courses from other schools for which we do not give weighted rank points. The transferring school and the receiving school must both have awarded weighted grades/rank for a particular course.

## Testing Results

2023 Advanced Placement Scores

Number of exams 757

Percent of AP Students with Scores 3+ 79.3%

### SAT and ACT Results:

**2022-23 SAT:** 184 exams  
 ERW Average: 633.4  
 Math Average: 639.4  
 Average Total (1600) 1279.9

**2022-23 ACT (district exam)** 683 exams  
 English: 22.1  
 Math: 21.9  
 Reading: 22.4  
 Science: 21.5  
 Writing: 7.3  
 Composite: 22.1

### National Merit Semi-Finalists

2023-6  
 2022-9  
 2021-3  
 2020-9  
 2019-11

### Flinn Scholar Awards

2023-0  
 2022-1  
 2021-1  
 2020-1  
 2019-1

## Dual Enrollment and/or Honors Courses

Advanced Art 1, 2, 3	Honors College Composition
Advanced Business Management	Honors Computer Programming 1, 3
Advanced Business Marketing	Honors Differential Equations
Advanced Computer Graphic Design	Honors Earth Science
Advanced Debate 1, 2, 3, 4	Honors Economics
Advanced Engineering 1, 2, 3, 4	Honors Exercise Physiology
Advanced Forensic Speech 1, 2, 3, 4	Honors Finite Math
Advanced Music Study and Performance	Honors French 3, 4
Advanced Sports Strength & Performance	Honors Freshman English
Advanced Studies	Honors Geometry
Advanced Technical Theater	Honors German 2, 3
Advanced Theater	Honors Human Anatomy and Physiology
Biology 1	Honors Humanities
Biology 2	Honors Junior English
Biotechnology 1	Honors Linear Algebra
Business Economic Applications	Honors Mandarin Chinese 2, 3, 4
Business Management	Honors Physics 1, 2
Business Technology Applications	Honors Sophomore English
Chemistry	Honors Spanish 3, 4, 5
College Mathematics	Honors US Government
Creative Writing	Honors World History/Geography
Finance for Business Management	Hospitality & Tourism
German 2, 3	Human Anatomy and Physiology
Honors Advanced Biology 2	Organic Chemistry 1
Honors Algebra 2 STEM	Photography 2
Honors American/Arizona History	Physics 1
Honors Biology 2	Pre-Calculus
Honors Biotechnology 1, 2	Psychology
Honors Brief Calculus	Sociology
Honors Calculus 3	Spanish 3
Honors Chemistry 1	Sports and Entertainment Marketing
	Technology, Leadership and Career Success

### 2022-2023

Over 1000 students enrolled in dual credit.