

# The Principal Bolt

Issue 2 : Week of July 31, 2023

## A Message From Principal White

Hello Thunder Families,

It has been an absolutely amazing beginning of the school year and I thank you for partnering with us in preparing and sending such wonderful young scholars to school every day! I look forward to a continued successful school year.

### Safety First

Our students and staff have embraced 'Safety First'. We have planned a few safety drills over the semester in regards to 'Safety First' to ensure we are prepared for a variety of circumstances that we may unexpectedly encounter. Within the next few weeks we will practice our fire alarm, modified lockdown and lockdown procedures. I will continue to alert you of these scheduled events throughout the school year.

As I shared in my last letter, we have reestablished wearing or being in possession of an ID badge at all times while on campus. The safety of everyone on our campus continues to be a priority. We provided students with many friendly reminders for the first three days of school and proceeded with warnings for those not in compliance. I am pleased to share that our students and staff are doing an excellent job in remembering their ID badge.

### Student Policy Book

On Wednesday, August 9th, we will be reviewing our Student Policy Handbook. I ask that you take time to review this information with your child. I desire that not one of our students would have to experience the consequences in the handbook. Unfortunately, there are times when it does occur and many are surprised at the consequences. In order to keep a safe and orderly campus of over 3100 students, it is paramount that all adhere to the district and school policies.

### Curriculum Night

Monday, August 7th starting at 6:30pm is Curriculum Night. You will have the opportunity to walk your students' schedule by attending each class for 10 mins. The teachers will be sharing with you information specific to their classroom and district course curriculum. We look forward to spending the evening with you.

### Two additional offerings:

- Senior Presentation-5:45pm-Dr. Joe McDonald Auditorium
- Rio Salado Dual Enrollment Presentation-5:45pm-Cafeteria

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call the front office, 480-706-7900.

Go Thunder!

Sincerely,  
Stacy White  
Principal

## MEET YOUR DV LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Principal White - [snielsen@tempeunion.org](mailto:snielsen@tempeunion.org)
- Assistant Principal Snyder (Academics) - [tjsnyder@tempeunion.org](mailto:tjsnyder@tempeunion.org)
- Assistant Principal Walther (Activities) - [jwalther@tempeunion.org](mailto:jwalther@tempeunion.org)
- Assistant Principal Higginbotham (Athletics) - [khigginbotham@tempeunion.org](mailto:khigginbotham@tempeunion.org)



Principal White

Mr. Walther  
Activities



Mr. Snyder  
Academics



Mrs. Higginbotham  
Athletics



## Desert Vista Mission, Vision, and Motto

**Mission:** Desert Vista inspires a community of learning by demonstrating excellence in academics, arts and extra-curricular activities.

**Vision:** We strive for excellence by engaging our community, promoting accountability, fostering responsibility and encouraging lifelong learning.

**Motto:** Excellence Through Performance

## Curriculum Night

**Main Event: Monday, August 7th, 6:30pm-8:00pm**

**(Event begins in the 1st hour classroom at 6:30pm)**

### **Additional Offerings:**

- Senior Presentation will begin in the Dr. Joe McDonald Auditorium at 5:45pm.
- Rio Salado Dual Enrollment Presentation will begin in the Cafeteria at 5:45pm.

**Parking is available in the student parking lot off of Frye and 32nd Street.**

**Students will follow the Early Release Wednesday Advisory bell schedule with release at 2:23pm.**

**You will use your ParentVUE for the schedule or you can follow the below handout that you will need your student to complete for you to follow.**

## SAVE THE DATE! Curriculum Night

### **WHEN**

**Monday, Aug. 7th, 6:30-8:15pm**

### **WHERE**

**16440 South 32nd Street  
Phoenix, AZ**

### **MORE INFORMATION**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

## Closed Campus

To better serve and ensure the safety of all students on campus during the school day, DV remains a closed campus. Therefore, lunch deliveries from outside vendors can't be accepted. With a population of over 3,100 students, it is very difficult to manage deliveries to the front office without knowing who is delivering or visiting our campus as well as holding and keeping track of a large amount of deliveries.

Students who bring their lunch have access to several microwave ovens within the cafeteria.

DV continues to offer regular school lunch options as well as concessions at the Cafe Sol area and vending machines during both lunches.



For the safety of our students, we need for families to not call students out during the lunch periods. Students who need to leave campus need to be signed out if they would like to leave during the one of the two lunch periods. Students won't receive an off campus pass during these hours with only a message left on the off campus pass line.

## 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

### Parking and Drop Off/Pick Up Information

Traffic is heavy around Desert Vista in the morning and after school. Plan accordingly if being dropped off. The student parking lot is off of Frye Road. When turning into the lot;

- follow the traffic flow,
- do not park and get out of a vehicle,
- eyes up watching for students on foot,
- drive slow,
- refrain from using a cell phone,
- follow the DV Security Guards instructions
- exit the vehicle in designated areas only

#### Student Pick-Up at the end of the day

When picking up your student: Park in an empty parking spot while waiting for your student. If not occupying a parking spot, continue to move with the flow of traffic exiting and reentering the lot until your student is ready to get into the vehicle. Do not block traffic by stopping and waiting for your student.

When parking in the community, be mindful of **NO PARKING** areas and be sure to show our community respect by not blocking or parking in driveways. Our Community Action Officer (CAO) has reached out with concerns that families aren't adhering to the posted no parking signs which has led to serve congested traffic. We need everyone to do their part by working with us.

As a reminder, it is important to adhere to all no parking signs and to only drop off in designated areas. Dropping off and/or picking up on Liberty Lane, Fry Road, 32nd Street are prohibited. Student safety is our number one priority and dropping off or picking up in these areas can put walkers, bikers, and drivers in danger.

### Parking Permit Holders

*\*Please take note of the **color** of your parking permit & the parking **lot** and parking **spot** that you are assigned to\**

**MAIN LOT** (on campus) parking is assigned by permit # and lane color. Main lot permit holders must be sure to park in their assigned spot, according to the color and # on their placard.

**CHURCH LOT** parking is *not* assigned by permit #. Church lot permit holders may select their desired parking spot in the church lot.

Attached are the [DVHS Student Parking Rules & Regulations](#). As a reminder, your parking permit cannot be shared, sold, or exchanged. Only the registered driver & registered vehicle may utilize the parking permit that was assigned to them.

Please be sure that your parking placard is hanging from your rearview mirror and visible from the front of your vehicle at all times while parked in the parking lot.

Should you have any questions, reach out to Becky Richardson in the Activities Office – [brichardson@tempeunion.org](mailto:brichardson@tempeunion.org)

## BOOKSTORE OPERATING HOURS

The Bookstore is open: M-F from 8:00am-1:30pm and 2:00pm-4:00pm

The online portal is also available to pay fees: [Bookstore portal](#).



## THE THUNDER COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

### Dual Enrollment

*Dual enrollment allows high school students to take college classes and earn credits that count toward their high school diploma and college degree or certificate and prepare them to enter the workforce. Tempe Union High School District partners with Rio Salado College to provide dual education. Use the QR code on the image or check out this [website](#)! Learn more about the benefits in [this story](#).*

# IT'S COOL TO DUAL

**EARN COLLEGE CREDITS THROUGH  
YOUR HIGH SCHOOL COURSES!**



**RIO SALADO COLLEGE**  
A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE




[www.RioSalado.Edu/Dual](http://www.RioSalado.Edu/Dual)

## Social Emotional Wellness Resources & Supports

Click for a list of [available resources](#).

## Social Emotional Wellness

<b>Empact Crisis Hotline:</b> (480) 784-1500	<b>National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:</b> Dial: 988
<b>Mercy Maricopa Crisis Hotline:</b> <b>Unit:</b> (602) 222-9444	<b>City of Tempe Care 7 Crisis Response</b>  (480) 350-8004
<b>Teen Lifeline Hotline:</b> (602) 248-8336	



## Class of 2024

Senior Jersey's: The link will close on 8/4 at 11:59pm.

<https://dvseniors24.itemorder.com/>

Senior Presentation: Monday, August 7th @ 5:45 in the auditorium.





# Tempe Union Dress Code Policy (JICA & JICA-R)

The Tempe Union High School District has an Dress Code Policy that all schools adhere to. Dress policies can be found under JICA and JICA-R. [Board Policy: Regulation.](#)

## Students must wear appropriate clothing including:

- a top and a bottom (such as pants, shorts, skirt or the equivalent) or,
- a one-piece outfit (such as a dress or jumpsuit), and
- footwear, as required by State law

## Clothing may not promote:

- drugs/alcohol/tobacco
- obscene language or symbols
- symbols of drugs
- sex, pornography
- criminal activity
- unlawful use of weapons
- advocating of violence or hate speech
- Clothing fabric must cover all private body parts
- The torso (i.e. stomach, back, chest) undergarments and must not be see-through
- Undergarment waistbands and/or straps that are incidentally visible under clothing are permitted; however, undergarments may not be worn as clothing
- Clothing may not cover a student's face to the extent that the student is not identifiable (except clothing worn for health and safety, medical, or religious purposes)

## Clothing, accessories and/or jewelry may not state, imply, or depict hate speech/imagery targeting groups based on

- race
- symbols of sex
- pornography
- gender identity
- gender expression
- sexual orientation
- ethnicity
- religion
- cultural observance
- household income
- body/type size

## Clothing, accessories and/or jewelry may not be:

- of images, symbols, slogans, word or phrases that are profane, discriminatory or defamatory
- worn with the intent to convey affiliation with a criminal street gang as defined in A.R.S. 13-105 and promote violence or acts of terror.

## SAFETY

A TOP priority at DV is safety. This is referred to as Safety First. We encourage our students and families to say something if they know or see something that may cause probable harm. Throughout the school year we will conduct planned practice drills of Fire, Evacuation, and Lockdown. Families will be notified when these occur.

In order to receive any and all communication from the school, it is vital that you keep your data in our Student Information System up to date. Personal information can be updated by contacting the front office or changing it within your ParentVUE account.

In the case of an event:

#### Stay At Home

- First Instinct is to go to the school. In doing so, you can endanger yourself and/or others like your child and staff at the school. We are working hard for the safety of your child. Having to take time out to care for parents and phone calls can be distracting. Please DO NOT come to the school or call until directed to do so.

#### Stay Informed

- During an emergency we will communicate as soon as we are able by website, voice message, text message, email, directed text from your student, social media and/or local media. Updates will be sent as often as we are able. Understand that sometimes it takes time to verify and confirm information so this may take time. Be patient and understanding.

#### Be Ready

- You will be told when and where to go. Only send one adult. You will be required to show a Gov't issued ID for an accountable exchange of students. Be patient as this process can take time.



## School ID's

ID's are a set standard for all on the DV campus. Everyone needs to have their ID around their neck or on their person at all times. All visitors must check in with the front office to receive a visitor badge to be on campus. Security and all Staff on campus are required to stop non-ID'd individuals.

The importance of school ID's:

- Useful for teachers and students.
- Identifies who belongs on campus.
- Assists everyone in the case of emergency, hurt, or harm in identification.
- Used in the cafeteria, library, bookstore, and for computer access to print on campus.

Thank you for your support to ensure that our campus remains a safe and secure educational environment for all.

Students receive a free ID at the beginning of the school year. ID's each year are unique specific to the school year. Lost ID's can be purchased in the bookstore for \$5.00.



Students will show their ID upon entering onto campus each day at any one of the three secured entrance points. Students without an ID will need to sign in. First, Second, and Third offenses are warnings. Four and all after will result in assigned detention.

## Attendance and Tardies

Attendance questions, concerns and/or help can be directed to Mr. Herrera at [pherrera@tempeunion.org](mailto:pherrera@tempeunion.org)

### Off Campus Passes and/or Early Student Pick Up

The off campus phone line is answered from 7:30am-2:00pm. If you plan on calling your student out or picking your student up early, please do so before 3:00pm.



When requesting an off campus pass for your student or requesting to pick your student up early from school, the office needs **at least an hours notice** to process the call and get the pass out to the student.

Absences add up. District policy allows for students to miss a total of 11 absences per semester. A benchmark to stay on track is to follow the practice of not more than 6 absent days during quarter 1 and 5 absent days during quarter 2.

Calling to excuse absences is vital and helps our front office staff out. Doing so within 24 hours is essential to their work.



## Electronic Devices–Phones, Earbuds, Headphones...Etc.

In order for students to focus on learning, Tempe Union High School District tries to minimize distractions and interruptions to all instructional time. Based on the importance of this instructional time, phones and electronic signaling devices will not be allowed to be visible or used. All students are required to adhere to the following guidelines regarding cell phones and other electronic signaling devices.

Cell phones and electronic signaling devices **may be used**

- on or off campus before or after school.
- during lunch
- following a school state of emergency, the school principal or designee may allow contact with parents for a designated time period.
- if a teacher approves the use for educational activities conducted in his/her own classroom.

- if a teacher/coach approves the use during extended trips and sporting events

Cell phones and electronic signaling devices **may NOT be used**

- during instructional classroom time, including assemblies or other activities, which take place during the regularly scheduled classroom periods
- to take pictures at any time that violate personal privacy
- for cheating
- on field trips or excursions, which are conducted during the normal school day and during regular classroom instructional hours

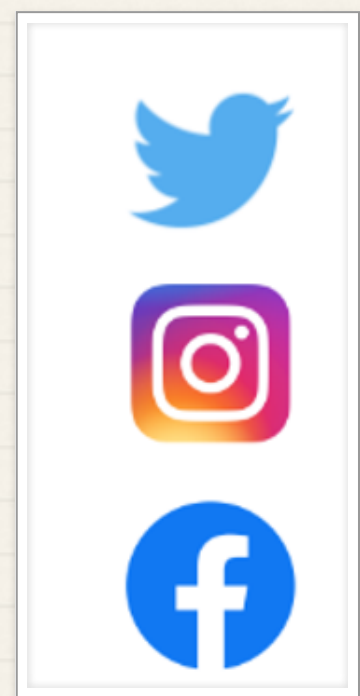
Students who violate the above guidelines shall be deemed to have created a disruption in the educational environment and are subject to disciplinary action. The severity of the disruption and whether other policies were also violated will determine the appropriate discipline.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

### DV Twitter, Instagram, Facebook– Please FOLLOW US

A lot of information is shared and pushed out via social media. Take the time to follow:

- **Twitter:** @DV\_Principal, @DVHS\_TUHSD, @dvactathletics
- **Instagram:** @dvhsthunder
- **Facebook:** Desert Vista High School – Like us!!!
- **TiKTok:** @dvhs\_tuhsd
- Desert Vista Guidance Department on **FaceBook** and **Twitter**
- All sports are on Twitter
- Tempe Union High School District on **Twitter:** @TUHSD\_News



## FOOD AND NUTRITION

### Family Nutrition and Free/Reduced Price Meals

This fall, 'back to school' will also mean 'back to student meal rates' for nutritious school meals. Schools will transition back to requiring family applications for free and reduced-price meals to meet USDA requirements. Learn more: [Family.TitanK12.com](https://Family.TitanK12.com)


Parents need to link their high school student to Tempe Union High School District and enter the TUHSD Student's ID in order to add funds.

Funds from the middle school do not transfer to the high school as we are a different District than Kyrene or Tempe Elementary.

When a pre-payment is made it will post immediately to the student's account.

Free and Reduced Meal Applications are available conveniently online at Family.TitanK12.com, at all the school offices, and the District Office. If you have any questions regarding the Free and Reduced Meal Program please call, (480) 345-3755. Any household meal applications that were submitted for school year 21/22 will continue their determined eligibility through 9/16/2022, or until a new application has been processed. [Titan Family Portal](#).

ALL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE [www.tempeunion.org](http://www.tempeunion.org)



The banner features a dark blue background with a pattern of small white dots. On the left, the TITAN FAMILY PORTAL logo is displayed, consisting of a shield with a 'T' and the text 'TITAN FAMILY PORTAL'. In the center, the words 'is now' are written in white. On the right, the LINQ Connect logo is shown, featuring a stylized 'C' in a blue square and the text 'LINQ Connect' in white and blue.

Our meal payment platform, TITAN Family Portal, has upgraded to LINQ Connect. You'll enjoy a fresh look and new features, designed just for you. Download the new LINQ Connect app from the Google Play Store, the Apple Store or visit LINQConnect.com to manage your meal payments in one convenient location. There's no need to change your username or password. It will all transfer to the new platform for you. Within the LINQ Connect portal, you can set up one-time or recurring payments for your student's meals, view previous transactions, set spending limits, transfer funds between students, set low balance notifications and more. It's an easy way to manage meal payments without the hassle of sending cash.

## ATHLETICS

[Tryouts and Register My Athlete](#)

### Girls Volleyball

Our varsity volleyball girls received the [AVCA](#) academic honor roll award. They were 1 of 13 schools to receive high academic recognition and 1 of 4 high schools in AZ to receive honor



roll recognition! Huge accomplishment for our varsity team! Go Thunder!

# Desert Vista Athletics



## Registration for 23-24 Sports is Open Now

[RegisterMyAthlete.com](https://RegisterMyAthlete.com)



## ACTIVITIES

Visit the [DV Activities](#) page for information on:

- Clubs
- Dances
- Fine Arts events
- Parking
- Performing Arts events
- Student council
- Trip Reduction Program



## Desert Vista Online Spirit Store

Time to grab that DV Swag for the 2023-24 school year! For a LIMITED TIME, the online Spirit Store will be accepting orders.

## NEW AVAILABLE DV SPIRIT WEAR 2023

# DV Spirit Wear

QR Code to Website to order



## Desert Vista High School

Home of the Thunder <https://www.tempeunion.org/desertvista>

16440 South 32nd Street

Phoenix, AZ. 85048

480-706-7900

