



SUMMIT HIGH SCHOOL

Student-Parent Handbook



43-330 Palm Royale
La Quinta, CA 92253

Ph. 760-238-9760

Oron Jackson, Principal



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Summit High School

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Oron Jackson, Principal	760-238-9760
Delyzia Rosales, Administrative Specialist	760-238-9760
Serina Strange, Ed.D., Assistant Principal	760-238-9760
Celia Jauregui, Office Specialist, Bilingual	760-238-9743
Ashley Gervin, Ed.D., Instructional Coach	760-238-9754

GUIDANCE

Sean Dougherty, Counselor	760-238-9745
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OTHER OFFICE STAFF

Kahlani Boydston, Library Media Specialist	760-238-9738
Yadira Lopez, Office Technician, Bilingual	760-238-9740
Barbara Torres, Data Specialist	760-238-9739
Annette Barlow, Registrar	760-238-9759

SECURITY

Juan Perales, Security Agent	760-238-9737
Jaime Tarascio, Security Agent	760-238-9737

Teachers

Mrs. Brauckmann, English/Electives

Mr. Chavez, Math

Staff, Math

Mr. Emmer, Social Studies

Mr. Estep, English Language Arts

Mr. Fischer, Independent Studies

Mr. Hollenbeck, Social Studies

Mr. Leslie, P.E/Electives

Mr. Fassnacht, Science

Mr. Eelkema, Art/Electives

School Hours

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri

Period 1	8:15 – 9:09
Period 2	9:11 – 10:05
Period 3	10:07 – 11:01
Period 4	11:03 – 11:57
Lunch	11:57 – 12:37
Period 5	12:39 – 1:33

Wednesday

Period 1	9:34 – 10:13
Period 2	10:15 – 10:54
Period 3	10:56 – 11:31
Lunch	11:31 – 12:11
Period 4	12:13 – 12:52
Period 5	12:54 – 1:33

Welcome to Summit High School

A message from the Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian (s),

Summit High School is home to nearly 300 credit deficient, second semester sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Our students, for any number of reasons, failed to find a home at our four comprehensive high schools. The tightknit group of ten teachers and one counselor see their role here as an opportunity, a calling. The hallmark of the program stems from the relationships each teacher builds with students who often have lacked these connections. Summit provides an opportunity for students to work at their own pace and play an integral part in making good on a second chance. Summit's assistant principal works with the teachers regarding students who are underperforming and/or have proven to have poor attendance. Using this information, she confers with students and families to sustain a healthy school-to-home line of communication. Summit students have the greatest advocate in their counselor who they meet with ten or more times throughout the school year. This connection has proven valuable on both an academic and social level. Summit is also home to a virtual independent studies program. This program is a haven for our students who suffer from social anxieties and find it difficult to exist in large spaces with an abundance of people. It also provides an opportunity for students who have timely occupational or religious commitments as the flexible schedule allows them to achieve a dream of earning their high school diploma, assist their family financially, or resolving any conflict that may interfere with their education.

Socially, Summit High School provides opportunities for students to take ownership of their campus via athletics and our Associated Student Body (ASB) programs. Summit has competitive volleyball (girls and boys), soccer (coed), basketball (girls and boys) and softball (girls and boys) teams that compete in an organized league. A prom is now held for our students as they are a cohesive group of young people wanting to spend time together. The ASB team is responsible for fundraisers, promoting school spirit, and civic engagement opportunities. During the 2017-2018 school year, we raised nearly \$400 for the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission, nearly \$300 for Pennies for Patients, and donated 417 pounds of clothing to the Desert Aids thrift store (Revivals). The dedicated work of our staff has produced favorable outcomes. In 2017-2018, there were increases in attendance, enrollment, state test scores, graduation rates and a decline in discipline.

We thank you for your involvement and commitment to excellence. Welcome to Summit!

Sincerely,

Oron Jackson

Oron Jackson, Principal

ATTENDANCE

California Compulsory Attendance law (E.C.48200) states all children from 6 to 18 years old must attend school.

- Parents, who foresee a situation where their son or daughter will have a prolonged absence, are encouraged to contact the school administration ahead of time to arrange to pick up homework prior to the absence. For longer absences perhaps an independent student program would be more appropriate. In this way, possible attendance problems can be eliminated or at least minimized. In either situation, please contact school officials as soon as possible.
- Students will be dropped from Summit High School's attendance, following 10 consecutive days of absence, after the school's attempt to make contact with guardian(s) fails.

HOMEWORK REQUESTS/STUDENT CONTRACTS

- Parents are encouraged to notify the attendance office regarding homework for the following reasons.
 - Student has been ill three days or more
 - Student will be going out of town for no more than 3 days
- *Students will be dropped from Summit High School's attendance after 10 consecutive absences and school attempts to make contact with guardian(s) have failed.*

PARENT VERIFICATION OF STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents are encouraged to call the school (760) 238-9743 to verify the reason for their child's absence. If you are not able to call, your child must bring a note when they return. Absence notes should contain the following: your child's name, date(s) of absence, reason for absence and parent signature. Verification must occur within 72 hours of the absence.

- Caregiver Authorization Affidavit Forms: are available in the Guidance office for those who wish to assign a non-parent or family member, the ability to clear absences, unless an advocacy form is on file, we are unable to clear absences from any adult other than the parent or guardian.

Note: It is important to remember persons who have a Caregiver Authorization Affidavit Form on file are not only able to clear absences; they are also able to change the student's classes, speak to guidance counselors, and withdraw the student.

ABSENCES AND HOMEWORK

Students who miss school can make up work regardless of reasons for “excused” absences. **However, it is up to the students to request assignments.** The development of self-discipline and sound independent study habits are essential for future scholastic and vocational success.

ABSENCES (RELIGIOUS REASONS)

Desert Sands Unified School District has adopted an attendance policy (Board Policy 5113) stating an absence for religious observance or exercise may be considered “excused”. Education Code section 46014 identifies parameters for this type of absence:

- For moral or religious instruction limited to 4 days per month.
- Student must attend minimum school day hours.
- Recommend three days advanced written request from parent.

ABSENCES

Education Code sections 46010 and 48205 identify the **acceptable reasons** for “excused” absences for the purposes of satisfying the California State Compulsory Attendance Law (E.C. 48200). Students who are “excused” must be given an opportunity to complete work which is reasonably close to, but not necessarily identical to, missed work. The types of absences identified in these codes include the following:

1. Personal illness (school may require a doctor’s note and will require doctor’s verification if the school deems the absences are excessive).
2. Quarantine under the direction of a health officer.
3. Personal medical appointment (requires a doctor’s note).
4. Funeral services of a parent, sibling, grandparent, brother/sister-in-law, or any relative living in the child’s immediate household (limit is one day in the state, and three days out of state).
5. Student is serving on jury duty.
6. Exclusion for verified medical reasons (not to exceed 5 school days).
7. Personal court appearance (requires verification).
8. Prior Principal approval for employment conference.
9. Observance of a religious holiday or ceremony
10. Religious retreat (limited to four hours per semester).
11. Student is the custodial parent of a child who is ill or has a medical appointment during school hours.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:

Unacceptable reasons for being absent from school are considered truancies or “unexcused.” The absence is considered “truant” if the student voluntarily does the following; the absence is considered “unexcused” if the parent or guardian requires the student to do the following:

- Going to work with parent or other family member.
- Going to the beach, lake, river, mountains, or the desert.
- Going to a concert, sporting event, or shopping.
- Being under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Babysitting, taking care of other family members
- Repairing car or household items, or a repair person to arrive.
- Personal problems.
- Other reasons not included in E.C. 48205

REWARDS FOR POSITIVE ATTENDANCE & BEHAVIOR

Positive attendance and appropriate behavior are essential elements in the development of an effective Summit High School experience. In an effort to reward students for practicing these essential elements, Summit High School has developed several programs that assign awards, prizes, and recognition for student efforts in these areas. The administration of Summit High School strives to work closely with parents and community to enhance student learning. We encourage parents to develop reward systems of their own to recognize their children’s accomplishments. The process of motivating students to exhibit good attendance and appropriate behavior will be achieved through a team effort - student, parents, community and Summit High School. Let’s work together.

DRESS CODE

The primary goal of Summit High School is to promote academic achievement. Any apparel which draws undue attention to the wearer or distracts from the educational process shall be considered inappropriate. Any issues that are not specifically covered in the rules and regulations but are disruptive to the educational process or considered to pose a safety hazard, will be at the discretion of the school administration or designee (see Board Policy 5132 and Administrative Regulation 5132).

All students shall abide by the following Dress Code guidelines:

GENERAL

1. All clothing shall be within the bounds of decency and good taste as appropriate for school. Garments shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times.
2. Hair and physical appearance shall be clean and neatly groomed. Clothing should be seasonably appropriate, of good fit, and in good repair. Aerosol cans of any kind are not permitted at school, i.e., hair color, hair spray.
3. Crude or vulgar printing or pictures depicting tobacco, drugs, alcoholic beverages, gang-related names or symbols, or those that are sexually suggestive are not allowed. Administration reserves the right to declare unacceptable any item of clothing, printing, or accessory depicting any logo that has been identified to be gang related.
4. Rips, tears or slits in clothing must not reveal undergarments or skin.
5. Excessively oversized or undersized clothing of any type or clothing of an inappropriate length is not acceptable. **Administration reserves the right to determine compliance on an individual basis.**
6. Desert Sands Unified School District School apparel such as T-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, and caps are permitted. Students are not to wear clothing designating membership to private clubs or representing gangs. Apparel representing community organizations may be worn upon approval of the school principal or designee. **Administration reserves the right to determine compliance on an individual basis .**
7. Any apparel, jewelry, accessory, notebook, hair net, or manner of grooming which by virtue of its arrangement, trademark, or any other attribute denotes membership in or relationship to a group/gang which advocates or promotes drug use alcohol use, tobacco use, disruptive behavior or may be a potential safety hazard are not permitted. **Administration reserves the right to determine compliance on an individual basis.**

ITEMS NOT PERMITTED

1. Spaghetti straps, backless, halter-tops, strapless, off the shoulder, tube-tops (tops/dresses)
2. Clothing with large arm and/or neck openings (low-cut tops)
3. Clothing that expose a student's bare midriff (if student raises arms, midsection should not be exposed).
4. See-through and/or *fishnet* type clothing that exposes a student's midriff, back, and/or undergarments
5. Shorts must have a minimum inseam of 3".
6. Excessively ragged, ripped and/or torn clothing (3" rule applies; no rips/tears exposing bare skin, buttocks, and/or undergarments).
7. Excessively baggy clothing that exposes undergarments
8. Dresses or skirts shorter than mid-thigh. Test: with student's arm extended down his/her leg, student's thumbnail must be touching the edge of garment/fabric. Buttocks and/or under garments may not be exposed
9. Active/Gym workout attire (example: leggings and/or tights). Leggings may be worn under skirts or dresses that meet the 3" thumb-rule.
10. Long and/or oversized coats or outerwear.
11. Clothing and/or accessories that depict and/or suggest vulgarity, defaming, offensive images, alcoholic beverages, tobacco or drugs, weapons, ammunition, gang-related names or symbols
Examples include but not limited to: Articles of clothing depicting a marijuana leaf, clothing and/or numbers suggesting a student identifying as living in a particular part of town (13, 44, 52), clothing and/or accessories with numbers deemed inappropriate (69, 187, 420)
Belt buckles or accessories shaped as weapons and/or drug paraphernalia.

Administration reserves the right to determine compliance on an individual basis.

ACCESSORIES (HATS, PIERCINGS, SHOES, TATTOOS, ETC.)

Summit High School principal approves school hats or caps. Hats may not be worn that portray crude or vulgar printing/pictures depicting tobacco, drugs, alcoholic beverages, gang-related names or symbols, or those that are sexually suggestive. No "do-rags" and/or bandanas may be

worn in the classroom or inside school buildings. Desert Sands Unified School District allows students to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats for outdoor use during the school day (Education Code 35183.5).

1. Sunglasses (unless prescription) may be worn on campus but not inside of classrooms. Summit High School is not responsible for any lost, stolen and/or damaged sunglasses.
2. Rings, earrings, belt buckles or other jewelry that may be considered disruptive, a safety hazard, or used as a weapon are not permitted.
3. Belts and Belt Buckles must be tasteful, unadorned and of an appropriate size for the student. Belts should have a surplus of no longer than 4” when appropriately placed to fit the waist. The belt shall not hang below the belt line.

INAPPROPRIATE/GANG-RELATED APPAREL *(as determined by law enforcement administration)*

Students wearing gang attire become targets for violence even though they are not gang members. In addition, the baggy, oversized clothing now identified as gang related, presents a safety hazard since it allows students to more readily conceal dangerous objects such as knives, and other weapons or provide hiding places for drugs and drug paraphernalia. Accordingly, the following types of clothing have been identified as unacceptable dress:

- Clothing, jewelry, and personal items that disrupt the instructional process.
- Hats other than unaltered school approved hats (properly worn)
- Oversized clothing such as shorts, pants, coats, etc. Pants or shorts must fit at the waist.
- Items that promote hate, intolerance or violence
- Unsafe jewelry and accessories, including but not limited to wallet chains, belts hanging from the waist, and belt buckles
- Visible undergarments
- Clothing with profanity, that is too tight, revealing or sexually provocative
- Clothing with pictures, insignia or brand names for controlled substances, tobacco, weapons, or alcohol
- Bandanas, *do-rags*, or *head gear that prevents clear view of the head or face*
- Unsafe footwear including house slippers. Additional footwear requirements may be imposed on students in specific classes such as: physical education, science and shop.
- Any articles of clothing or accessories if identified by administration or local law enforcement as being gang or hate group related will be forbidden on campus or any other school function or activity including sporting events.
- Gloves may be worn during inclement weather only. No single glove is to be worn at any time. No leather type gloves such as baseball gloves are to be worn at school.

Due to the frequent change in gang-related symbols, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once per semester and updated whenever related information is received.

DRESS CODE CONSEQUENCES

- 1st Offense = Student will be required to change into loaner clothing provided by school or have parent bring a change of clothing.
- 2nd Offense = Student will be required to change into loaner clothing provided by school or have parent bring a change of clothing.
- 3rd Offense = Student will be required to change into loaner clothing provided by school or have parent bring a change of clothing. Student will also be assigned after school community service.
- **Students will be automatically assigned after school community service after every third offense that could let to possible suspension.**

SCHOOL ID CARDS & LANYARDS

- Each Student is provided a Summit identification card and school issued lanyard upon registration. ID cards/Lanyards must be worn at ALL times while on campus.
- Student IDs are used for all student related activities that include but not limited to checking out books, Chromebooks, purchasing lunch, and verifying identity. Students can replace lost or stolen ID Cards/Lanyard in the school library for \$5.00.
- Student IDs must be visible to security and staff at all times!

ID/LANYARD CONSEQUENCES

- 1st Offense = Sign-in at the front desk and receive loaner ID Card
- 2nd Offense = Sign-in at the front desk and receive loaner ID Card
- 3rd Offense = Sign-in at the front desk and receive loaner ID Card, Student will be assigned after-school community service.

BULLYING

Anti-Bullying (*Wording from Assembly Bill 746*)

“Bullying is defined as: one or more acts of sexual harassment, hate violence, or intentional harassment, threats, or intimidation, directed against school district personnel or pupils, committed by a pupil or group of pupils that interferes with the individual’s school performance or participation in the educational process. Bullying, including bullying committed by means of an electronic act which includes a post on a social network website, is grounds for suspension or expulsion”

“Electronic Act” means the transmission communication, including but not necessarily limited to a message, text, sound, or image, or a post on a social network, internet website, by means of an electronic device, including, but not necessarily limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer or other device.

Desert Sands Unified School District, Administrative Regulation 5131.41(a), Bullying states:

1. Bullying occurs when one or more person(s) threatens, harass or intimidate another person through words, and/or actions that may include:
 - a. Direct physical contact such as hitting and/or shoving
 - b. Verbal assaults that include teasing and/or name-calling
 - c. Socially isolating and/or manipulating a student

2. Bullying includes, but is not limited to making unsolicited written, verbal, physical and/or visual contact. Examples include:
 - a. Written - intimidating/threatening letters, notes, or messages
 - b. Verbal - intimidating/threatening comments, slurs, innuendos, teasing, jokes, or epithets.
 - c. Visual - leering or gestures
 - d. Physical - hitting, slapping, and/or pinching
 - e. Making reprisals, threats of reprisal, or implied threats of reprisal.
 - f. Engaging in implicit or explicit coercive behavior to control, influence or affect the health and well-being of a person.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Students using school transportation must follow **bus** rules. Students and parents/guardians are reminded that because students are in route home riding the bus, or in route to school riding the bus, they are still the responsibility of the Desert Sands Unified School District; therefore there may be disciplinary actions beyond the actions taken by the transportation department if infractions occur. Transportation is a privilege that can be suspended or discontinued at any time.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Report to the office when visiting campus during school hours.
- Provide notes excusing student absences and non-participation in P.E. prior to it happening.
- Fill out release forms authorizing children to take medication at school.
- Complete information cards in case of student emergencies.
- Check clothing for dress code conformity before sending students to school.
- Keep in touch with teachers and be aware of daily assignments.
- Check ParentVue/StudentVue (<https://student.dsusd.us/>) on a daily basis to monitor grades, behavior and attendance.

NOTE: Students that do not have a current emergency card (Complete with Address and Phone Numbers) on file in the Administration office will not be allowed to attend school.

If your contact numbers or address change, you must notify the school by calling the Attendance Office. We must be able to contact you in the event of an emergency.

PICKING UP STUDENTS AFTER SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

Parents are required to pick up students **no later than 15 minutes** after the end of a student event. Students who are not picked up until after the 15 minutes will be supervised by a Summit High School employee until pick up occurs, or if an employee cannot remain, the authorities will be called. However, that student will be placed on the Social Restriction list for the next event. If the violation occurs a second time, the student will be placed on permanent Social Restriction.

MEDICAL CONCERNS

EMERGENCY CARDS

Early in the school year, parents are asked to fill out cards that provide vital information in case of emergencies involving students. These “emergency cards,” as they are called, must be completed and returned to school promptly. It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to maintain current contact information for their student(s). Please protect your children – in case of emergency the school must be able to contact family members.

HEALTH OFFICE

Sick or injured students are sent to the Health Office, where personnel attempt to contact parents and/or the appropriate emergency authorities. If parents are unavailable, and if conditions permit, students are returned to class.

MEDICATION

Parents of students taking medication regularly must submit a release form to the Health Office along with the medication itself. No student shall carry medication of any kind on campus without written consent of the principal. Any student carrying medication will be referred for disciplinary action.

**The school does not dispense any over-the-counter medication.*

ACCIDENTS

Students must report accidents, no matter how small, to school personnel. Remember, parents are responsible for medical insurance for children who attend Summit High School.

NURSING/HEALTH CLERK SERVICES

The nursing staff is available to help with health concerns. Students are expected to practice good hygiene and health care

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Eligibility: To be eligible to participate, an athlete must meet academic requirements.

- An athlete is ineligible when his or her behavior, attendance or credit production is below Summit's standards. The athletic coach will determine if the student is eligible to participate. If the athlete is removed from the team, their parents will be notified by the coach.
- All school policy and handbook rules apply while participating in an athletic event

EQUIPMENT

- All athletes are responsible for proper care and security of all equipment issued to them.
- School furnished equipment is to be worn only for athletic events.
- Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are financially responsible for equipment issued to their child and may be financially responsible for any lost or damaged equipment.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Any violation of the Summit High School rules of conduct may result in loss of competition or the ability to participate in any extracurricular activities. Violation of any of these policies or codes of conduct can result in consequences from either/both the team coach or school administration.
2. You have decided to be an athlete, and a large part of being an athlete is taking proper care of your body. It has been proven through extensive research that the use of tobacco, alcohol and drugs are harmful to the human body. Therefore, Summit High will not permit the use of any of these substances. Students found in violation of this policy **will not be allowed** to participate in any extracurricular activities. Per school administration approval, a student athlete may be allowed to participate in the next season of sports following a violation.
3. Travel: All athletes must travel to and from athletic contests and practices in transportation provided by the athletic department unless previous arrangements are made by the parents for exceptional situations.
 - a. All athletes will remain with their team and under the supervision of the coach.
 - b. All regular school bus rules must be followed.
 - c. Dress appropriately and in good taste on game days.
 - d. All athletes will be required to change out of athletic apparel and back into school clothing

- e. Athletes are required to ride with the team to all school events. Student athletes who wish to leave the game with their parents, must leave a signed note from parent/guardian left in the front office.
- f. Students must be picked up by parent/guardian no longer than 15 minutes after the event has finished at the designated pickup area.

Missing practice: Athletes must consult with their perspective coach(s) *prior* to missing practice. All practices are held after the 1:33 dismissal bell.

Individual Team Rules: All teams will have a list of team rules and regulations. These rules and regulations have been approved by the administration and are to be followed just as departmental rules and regulations.

As a representative of Summit High School and the Desert Sands Unified School District community, any behavior that results in negative perception of either, may result in a suspension from the team or removal from the team.

MISCELLANEOUS

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Students should arrive on campus no earlier than 7:00 a.m. They must leave by 2:00 p.m., unless participating in school activities.

When students arrive on campus they must remain in the designated areas. Students may not leave campus, or be in restricted areas of the campus. Students are not allowed to leave campus once they have entered Horizon/Summit's doors.

Skateboards cannot be carried around campus.

CLOSED CAMPUS/LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY

Summit High School is a closed campus. Students must remain until the end of the school day unless authorized to leave early. A student may leave campus during school hours under the following conditions:

1. A parent or guardian reports to the front office and signs the student out.
2. The student presents to the attendance window a note excusing him/her from class for a valid reason, such as a medical appointment or family emergency.
3. A parent or guardian calls the attendance office and excuses a student from class for reasons like those mentioned above. Office specialist will verify some very specific information via phone prior to releasing the student.

SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

Any student using school equipment or uniforms will be held liable if they are not returned. This includes all assigned text books. These fines will follow the student to any new school or school district. A student will not be able to receive a diploma unless these fines are paid.

TELEPHONE USAGE

The school phones are for school business purposes only. Calls to the office will be answered between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Students may not use the office phone except in an emergency. **An emergency is something which affects the child's health or safety.** Personal cell phone use is restricted to before school, during lunch and after school. Except for academic use with prior teacher approval, students are not allowed to use cell phones during instructional time.

VISITORS

Guests' visitations are limited to essential business and must first report to administration for approval. Parents must give the school twenty-four (24) hours' notice before visiting classrooms. Children who are not students at Summit High School are not allowed on campus.

MEALS

Summit High School students have access to a hot breakfast and lunch. A student in financial need may qualify for a daily breakfast and lunch at a free or reduced price. Applications are available at the school office. You can also complete an application on line: www.schoollunchapp.com or contact Nutrition Services at (760) 771-8559 to complete the lunch application over the phone.

Cell Phone & Electronic Devices Policy

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Desert Sands Unified School, its officers, agents or employees shall not be responsible, in any manner, for the loss, theft, damage, or destruction of any personal property brought on to the school or district premises by students, for any reason whatsoever. This does include, but is not limited, items confiscated by school personnel. Students who bring personal property on to the school premises assume all risk of loss, theft, damage, or destruction of the personal property which may occur. All bicycles must be locked in the bike rack; they may not be kept in the office or the classrooms. Skateboards and "razor" type scooters are not allowed on the Summit campus at any time for any reason, unless given specific permission by Summit administration.

Personal property includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, other electronic devices, bicycles, photographs, backpacks, etc.

All electronic devices and personal property will be donated to a charity of the school's choice at the end of the year. The donation will occur one week after the last day of school.

Education Code 48901.5 – Electronic Signaling Device

48901.5. (a) The governing board of each school district, or its designee, may regulate the possession or use of any electronic signaling device that operates through the transmission or receipt of radio waves, including, but not limited to, paging and signaling equipment, by pupils of the school district while the pupils are on campus, while attending school-sponsored activities, or while under the supervision and control of school district employees. (b) No pupil shall be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by a licensed physician and surgeon to be essential for the health of the pupil and use of which is limited to purposes related to the health of the pupil.

Education Code 51512

51512. The Legislature finds that the use by any person, including a pupil, of any electronic listening or recording device in any classroom of the elementary and secondary schools without the prior consent of the teacher and the principal of the school given to promote an educational purpose disrupts and impairs the teaching process and discipline in the elementary and secondary schools, and such use is prohibited. Any person, other than a pupil, who willfully violates this section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Any pupil violating this section shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. This section shall not be construed as affecting the powers, rights, and liabilities arising from the use of electronic listening or recording devices as provided for by any other provision of law. ***Any student found in violation is subject to disciplinary actions.***

Learning Styles

Everyone learns in different ways and in different styles of learning. There are some parts of a study environment that are good for most people; you need a place that is free from distractions, well lit and comfortable.

- Finding the best possible place for studying can be a challenge. A quiet place is the best. The fewer distractions, the quicker you will complete your homework. Studies have shown that 80% of the students use their bedrooms for studying. If you study in your bedroom, make it a place where you can accomplish your work.
- Avoid music, television, the telephone and eating while studying. Don't let your daydreaming control your study time. Take study breaks. Study for 30-40 minutes, and then take a 5-10 minute break.
- Good lighting is necessary for successful studying. Eliminate glare and shadows on your work by sitting with the light behind you. Prop reading material at a 45 degree angle to avoid straining your eyes.
- The best position while studying is upright and seated at a desk. This position keeps you more alert. If you find yourself not concentrating, change positions.

Smarter Balanced Assessments

State mandated academic tests are administered once per year. All students will take the Smarter Balanced Assessment in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Below is a web address to the Smarter Balanced Assessment testing and accountability resource website. You will have access to the Smarter Balanced online testing practice and training test. This will give students and parents an opportunity to practice and familiarize themselves with our state wide expectations.

Student link:

<https://sites.google.com/a/desertsands.us/assessment-accountability/home/caaspp-student-resources>

Parent/Community link:

<https://sites.google.com/a/desertsands.us/assessment-accountability/home/parent-links>