



A NEW WAY OF LEARNING

Exciting New Education Program!

In an effort to increase student achievement, Desert Sands Charter High School has implemented a “skills intervention” program at both the Lancaster and Palmdale campuses.

Effective immediately, DSCHS teachers will be designating students for skills intervention based on certain academic criteria. Students who are selected for this intervention will be **required** to attend the DSCHS campus up to two extra hours per week.

During the intervention classes, students will be given specialized instruction designed to hone in on specific skills that are lacking. These skills will enhance the students’ knowledge base and serve as a springboard to passing the CAHSEE exam.

Once a student is designated for intervention, their attendance at the classes is required as a condition of enrollment. Failure to attend class will likely lead to permanent disengagement from the school.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call our Educational Site Administrator, Dr. Mary Gil, at 661-272-0044.



Important Announcements

- **Tutoring available full time at both campuses! Ask the front desk for details.**
- **Student submissions for this newsletter are ALWAYS welcome. Ask your teacher for details.**
- **Don’t forget to turn in your Daily Learning Log!**
- **We’re on the radio! Listen closely and you may hear our ad on 93.5 or 106.3!**

Important Dates

Holiday Break	12/24 - 1/7
Graduation	1/25
Graduation Deadline	12/22
In Service Day	12/20
MLK Jr. Day	1/15
End of Fall Semester	1/19

PE Credits Required for All!

If you didn’t get the memo, here’s your warning...

All students at DSCHS will be required to complete 230 credits, regardless of their age, as of 12/30/06. This 230 credits in-

cludes PE. Any student who had previously had their PE credits counted as electives will notice a change on their next transcript evaluation. For some of

you, this may mean you’ll have to be here a little longer before you graduate.

If you have any questions, your teacher should be able to answer them.

Have you been tested yet?

You’ve all heard of the CST, CAT 6, CAHSEE, STAR, etc. Those are all state required tests that the state uses to determine not only how the student is performing, but how the school as a whole is performing.

Results of those tests, however, take a while to come in. We need to know how you’re doing right now, so we have you take the SCANTRON performance series test.

I know, I know... you’re tired of taking yet another test. But it helps you, too!

Why? Well, we pride ourselves on our Personalized Learning program. It is our belief that every single student in our school (or every school, for that matter) learns differently.

We use the SCANTRON tests to determine exactly what you need to know. This

enables your teacher to pinpoint exactly what you should be working on and the best way to go about assigning your work. They can also help us figure out exactly what you need to pass the CAHSEE.

Desert Sands requires students to test *at least* every 6 months in the 3 SCANTRON areas (Language Arts, Reading, and Math) or when you finish a corresponding course.

There are three types of people in this world: Those who can count, and those who can't."

- Seen on a bumper sticker

Did You Know?

Sunlight takes 8 minutes to reach the earth.

A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.

A common roach can live for over a week without it's head.

If you lick a stamp, you are consuming 1/10th of a calorie.

Los Angeles' full name is "El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de los Angeles de Porciuncula."

In Montana, it is a felony for a wife to open her husband's mail.

No war has been fought where both countries had a McDonald's.

In every episode of "Seinfeld" there appeared a picture of Superman somewhere in the background.

Most people fall asleep in 7 minutes.

In San Francisco, it is illegal for persons classified as "ugly" to walk down any street. (I'm not making this up! I swear!)

Mexico once had three presidents in one day.



You think your job is bad? Could be worse!

Desert Sands Expands Again!



Your tax dollars paid for this sign.

In an effort to get those pesky administrators out of your hair, Desert Sands has opened up an administrative office on 10th Street West in Lancaster.

Gone are the days where you'll be on your way to class and bump into an accountant or human resources person.

More importantly, though, is the fact that we now have even more space to enhance your education!

In the near future, expect to see Desert Sands offering even more enrichment activities in order to utilize all the new-found space.

Look forward to our Vocational Education program, an expanded computer lab, and even space for small group instruction.

Apparently, my idea for an indoor paintball range was squashed. Oh well.

And how is education supposed to make me feel smarter? Besides, every time I learn something new, it pushes some old stuff out of my brain. Remember when I took that home winemaking course, and I forgot how to drive?

- Homer Simpson

It's Graduation Time!

When? Jan. 25, 2007 at 6pm.

Where? The Essex House in Lancaster.

How Many? Approximately 60 students will participate.

Other Info - Students must complete all credits by 12-22-06. Contact Antoinette for more info at 272-0044.

Welcome Newbies!

Desert Sands is growing at an unprecedented pace. Apparently all you students out there think we're doing something right, and you're telling all your friends.

Thank You!

With the influx of students, we've brought a few new teachers on board....

Welcome Newbies, hopefully we don't scare you off!

Sally Haddad
Stacey Smith
Nicholas Buckmelter
Debbie Penny
Jeff Martineau
Dan Alon
Jodi Mills
Ron Freeman
Matt Schell
Paul Roberts

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