

# Desert Sands Unified School District Desert Ridge Academy

Grades 6 through 8  
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## 2022-23 School Accountability Report Card *Published January 2024*

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### Contents

Principal's Message  
Mission  
Vision  
School Description  
Student Achievement  
Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)  
Parent Involvement  
School Facilities & Maintenance  
Classroom Environment  
Curriculum & Instruction  
Professional Staff  
District Expenditures  
SARC Data

## Principal's Message

Welcome to Desert Ridge Academy's Annual School Accountability Report Card. In accordance with Proposition 98, every school in California is required to issue an annual School Accountability Report Card that fulfills state and federal disclosure requirements. Parents and community will find valuable information about our academic achievement, professional staff, curricular programs, instructional materials, safety procedures, classroom environment, and condition of facilities.

Desert Ridge Academy's (DRA's) mission is to foster high expectations in social, emotional, and academic development, by providing a safe and rigorous 21st century learning environment and by leading the way with Accountability, Integrity, and Respect. We are accomplishing our mission by creating a robust Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS) that focuses on three areas in order to meet the needs of the whole child: academics, social emotional and behavior. We are a community where all means all- All adults (faculty, staff, families, and community members) working together in a supportive and collaborative manner in order to meet the needs of all students.

DRA provides a warm, stimulating environment where students are actively involved in learning academics as well as positive values. Our faculty, and support staff are highly trained professionals that have continuous Professional Development in Common Core standards, English Language Development (ELD), Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) services, Special Education services, and technology development.

DRA is an Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Site of Distinction, an honor awarded to fewer than five percent of schools nationwide. The recognition takes note of schools that create systems of support and a college going atmosphere. DRA offers AVID Excel, specifically designed for English language learners. Additionally, DRA has been recognized as a Silver Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support (PBIS) School. The California PBIS Coalition initiated the statewide recognition system to acknowledge schools for implementing PBIS with fidelity. Among other strategies, DRA is proud to utilize the PBIS rewards program; a point based management system with a multi-device platform that makes it easy to continuously recognize students for meeting behavior expectations from anywhere in the school.

DRA has an integrated program that inspires students to explore multiple college and career options in preparation for high school and beyond while achieving academic success. We are proud to be a College and Career Exploratory School. We offer over 30 different elective courses that are directly aligned to the different CTE and Academic Programs offered at the different High Schools in our District. Coding, Robotics, Digital Art, Broadcasting, Journalism, Drama, Master Jr. Gardening and World Language to mention a few.

DRA takes pride in developing leaders and providing programs centered around student interests by providing the following programs: Where Everyone Belongs (WEB) program, Associated Student Body (ASB), Renaissance, yearbook, Speech and Debate, Mock-Trial and Cadet Corp.

DRA also holds a strong fine arts program, which resulted in multiple awards throughout the years. Our music department offers traditional programs such as beginning and advanced band as well as non- traditional classes such as guitar, percussion, and mariachi.

In addition to offering a rigorous curriculum and integrating Common Core standards, we provide students with opportunities to grow beyond the classroom: tutoring during and after school, after school sports, including Cheerleading, over 20 different clubs, and After School Education and Safety (ASES).

DRA has a recently renovated Parent Center that we are eager to reopen, a strong counseling program which supports the healthy development of our students and great partnerships with multiple community programs such as the Ophelia Project, Above the Influence, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Desert, Ronnie's House for Hope, Stress Busters and Insight.

It truly is an honor and a privilege to be the principal of Desert Ridge Academy Middle School. Our faculty, staff, students, families, and community members are united in creating a safe and rigorous learning environment...Without a doubt, DRA leads the way with Accountability, Integrity and Respect.

## District Mission

To inspire and nurture every student ... one opportunity at a time.

## District Vision

We will be the district of choice to successfully prepare every student for college, career, and life.

## Vision

### SCHOOL MISSION

Desert Ridge Academy fosters high expectations in social, emotional, and academic development, provides a safe and rigorous 21st century learning environment and leads the way with Accountability, Integrity, and Respect.

## School Description

Desert Ridge Academy is located in the northern region of Indio and serves students in grades six through eight following a traditional calendar. At the beginning of the 2022-23 school year, 1030 students were enrolled, including 12.5% in special education, 24.7% qualifying for English Language Learner support, and 82.1% qualifying for free or reduced price lunch.

Student Enrollment by Student Group / Grade Level 2022-23			
Student Group	% of Total Enrollment	Grade Level	# of Students
Female	49.60%	Grade 6	343
Male	50.30%	Grade 7	348
Non-Binary	0.10%	Grade 8	339
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	0.40%	Ungraded	0
Asian	0.80%		
Black or African-Amer.	1.20%		
Filipino	0.50%		
Hisp. or Latino	86.60%		
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.10%		
Two or More Races	1.00%		
White	7.20%		
English Learners	24.70%		
Foster Youth	0.80%		
Homeless	1.00%		
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	0.50%		
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	82.10%		
Students with Disabilities	12.50%		
Total Enrollment			1,030

## Student Achievement

### Physical Fitness

In the spring of each year, Desert Ridge Academy is required by the state to administer a physical fitness test to all students in grade seven. The physical fitness test (PFT) for students in California schools is the FITNESSGRAM. The main goal of the test is to help students in starting life-long habits of regular physical activity.

The FITNESSGRAM has six parts, though California currently requires five parts be completed annually, that show a level of fitness that offer a degree of defense against diseases that come from inactivity. The test results can be used by students, teachers, and parents. Comparative District and state results can be found at the CDE's web site [www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf](http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf).

Physical Fitness Test Percentage of Students Meeting California Fitness Standards 2022-23					
Grade	Component 1: Aerobic Capacity	Component 2: Abdominal Strength and Endurance	Component 3: Trunk Extensor and Strength and Flexibility	Component 4: Upper Body Strength and Endurance	Component 5: Flexibility
7	80.12%	86.46%	82.42%	85.3%	86.17%

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

In the administration of the PFT during 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years, only participation results are required for these five fitness areas.

## California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) System includes the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments (SBAC) for students in the general education population, and the California Alternate Assessments (CAAs) for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Only eligible students may participate in the administration of the CAAs. CAAs items are aligned with alternative achievement standards, which are linked with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). CAASPP results are a measure of how well students are mastering California's standards in English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics, and are given to grades three through eight and grade eleven. SBAC tests assess student performance in ELA/Literacy and mathematics utilizing computer-adaptive tests and performance tasks, and CAAs test items are aligned with alternative achievement standards which are linked with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

The CAASPP results shown in this report include overall results comparing the school, district and state scores as well as the school's overall score in each applicable subgroup. Results are shown only for subgroups with ten students or more taking the exam. For those categories that are blank in the tables, no students met subgroup criteria. More information on CAASPP can be found on the California Department of Education's website [www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/](http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/).

CAASPP Test Results in ELA and Mathematics - All Students						
	Percent of Students Meeting or Exceeding State Standards					
	School		District		State	
	21-22	22-23	21-22	22-23	21-22	22-23
English-Language Arts/Literacy (grades 3-8 and 11)	29.0	29.0	40.0	40.0	47.0	46.0
Mathematics (grades 3-8 and 11)	12.0	14.0	25.0	26.0	33.0	34.0

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

ELA and mathematics test results include the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment and the CAA. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3-Alternate) on the CAAs divided by the total number of students who participated in both assessments.

CAASPP Test Results in ELA by Student Group (2022-23)					
Student Groups	Total Enrollment	# Tested	% Tested	% Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	1022	1000	97.85	2.15	28.74
Female	502	492	98.01	1.99	32.99
Male	519	507	97.69	2.31	24.45
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	--	--	--	--	--
Asian	--	--	--	--	--
Black or African-Amer.	15	15	100.00	0.00	20.00
Filipino	--	--	--	--	--
Hisp. or Latino	884	863	97.62	2.38	27.39
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	--	--	--	--	--
Two or More Races	34	33	97.06	2.94	36.36
White	69	69	100.00	0.00	39.13
English Learners	241	230	95.44	4.56	7.05
Foster Youth	--	--	--	--	--
Homeless	12	11	91.67	8.33	18.18
Military	18	18	100.00	0.00	22.22
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	--	--	--	--	--
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	825	809	98.06	1.94	24.94
Students with Disabilities	126	120	95.24	4.76	4.17

CAASPP Test Results in Mathematics by Student Group (2022-23)					
Student Groups	Total Enrollment	# Tested	% Tested	% Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	1022	998	97.65	2.35	13.87
Female	502	494	98.41	1.59	11.99
Male	519	503	96.92	3.08	15.54
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	--	--	--	--	--
Asian	--	--	--	--	--
Black or African-Amer.	15	15	100.00	0.00	6.67
Filipino	--	--	--	--	--
Hisp. or Latino	884	861	97.40	2.60	12.81
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	--	--	--	--	--
Two or More Races	34	33	97.06	2.94	15.63
White	69	69	100.00	0.00	21.74
English Learners	241	231	95.85	4.15	1.30
Foster Youth	--	--	--	--	--
Homeless	12	10	83.33	16.67	--
Military	18	18	100.00	0.00	5.56
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	--	--	--	--	--
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	825	805	97.58	2.42	10.97
Students with Disabilities	126	120	95.24	4.76	0.83

Note: ELA test results include the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment and the CAA. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3-Alternate) on the CAAs divided by the total number of students who participated in both assessments.

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Note: The number of students tested includes all students who participated in the test whether they received a score or not; however, the number of students tested is not the number that was used to calculate the achievement level percentages. The achievement level percentages are calculated using only students who received scores.

CAASPP Test Results in Science for All Students						
	Percent of Students Meeting or Exceeding State Standards					
	School		District		State	
	21-22	22-23	21-22	22-23	21-22	22-23
Science (grades 5, 8, and 10)	15.0	18.6	22.3	23.3	29.5	30.3

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Science test results include the CAST and the CAA for Science. The "Percent Met or Exceeded" is calculated by taking the total number of students who met or exceeded the standard on the CAST plus the total number of students who met the standard (i.e., achieved Level 3-Alternate) on the CAA for Science divided by the total number of students who participated in a science assessment.

The number of students tested includes all students who participated in the test whether they received a score or not; however, the number of students tested is not the number that was used to calculate the achievement level percentages. The achievement level percentages are calculated using only students who receive scores.

CAASPP Test Results in Science by Student Group (2022-23)					
Student Groups	Total Enrollment	# Tested	% Tested	% Not Tested	Percent Met or Exceeded
All Students	344	339	98.55	1.45	18.58
Female	178	175	98.31	1.69	17.14
Male	166	164	98.80	1.20	20.12
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	--	--	--	--	--
Asian	--	--	--	--	--
Black or African-Amer.	--	--	--	--	--
Filipino	--	--	--	--	--
Hisp. or Latino	305	300	98.36	1.64	14.67
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0
Two or More Races	--	--	--	--	--
White	18	18	100.00	0.00	55.56
English Learners	81	78	96.30	3.70	1.28
Foster Youth	--	--	--	--	--
Homeless	--	--	--	--	--
Military	--	--	--	--	--
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	--	--	--	--	--
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	277	272	98.19	1.81	13.60
Students with Disabilities	38	37	97.37	2.63	0.00

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

## Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

As part of the new Local Control Funding Formula, school districts are required to develop, adopt, and annually update a three-year Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP). The following components of this SARC address some of the priorities identified in the District's LCAP:

Conditions of Learning (Basic Services) – State Priority 1: Degree to which teachers are appropriately assigned and fully credentialed in the subject areas and for the pupils they are teaching; pupils have access to standards-aligned instructional materials and school facilities are maintained in good repair. Covered in Teacher Preparation and Placement, including the Teacher Credentials & Misassignments chart; Instructional Materials, including the Textbooks chart; and School Facilities & Maintenance, including the Campus Description and School Facility Good Repair Status charts.

Conditions of Learning (Implementation of State Standards) – State Priority 2: Implementation of academic content and performance standards adopted by the state board for all pupils. Not covered in the School Accountability Report Card.

Parental Involvement – State Priority 3: Efforts to seek parent input in decision making, promotion of parent participation in programs for unduplicated pupils and special need subgroups. Covered in Parent Involvement.

Pupil Achievement – State Priority 4: Performance on standardized tests, score on Academic Performance Index, share of pupils that are college and career ready, share of English learners that become English proficient, English learner reclassification rate, share of pupils that pass Advanced Placement exams with a 3 or higher, and share of pupils determined prepared for college by the Early Assessment Program. Covered in California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, including the CAASPP charts.

Engagement (Pupil Engagement) – State Priority 5: School attendance rates, chronic absenteeism rates, middle school dropout rates, high school dropout rates, and high school graduation rates. Covered in Dropout & Graduation Rates, including the Dropout chart; and Graduation Requirements, including the Graduation Rate chart for high schools only.

School Climate – State Priority 6: Pupil suspension rates, pupil expulsion rates, other local measures including surveys of pupils, and parents and teachers on the sense of safety and school connectedness. Covered in Discipline & Climate for Learning, including Suspension & Expulsion chart; and School Site Safety Plan.

Conditions of Learning (Course Access) – State Priority 7: Pupil enrollment in a broad course of study that includes all of the subject areas. Not covered in the School Accountability Report Card.

Other Pupil Outcomes – State Priority 8: Pupil outcomes in the subject areas. Covered in Physical Fitness, including the Physical Fitness Test chart.

## Parent Involvement

Parents are encouraged to get involved in their child's learning environment either by volunteering in the classroom, participating in a decision-making group, or simply attending school events.

Parents stay informed on upcoming events and school activities through parent conferences, progress reports, the school marquee, the school website, School Messenger (automated telephone message delivery system), Facebook, and Twitter. Contact the school office at (760) 393-5500 for more information on how to become involved in your child's learning environment.

### Opportunities to Volunteer

AVID Tutoring  
Chaperone Field Trips  
Classroom Helper  
Fundraising Activities  
Library Helper  
Office Helper  
School Dances  
Schoolwide Activities

### Committees

English Learner Advisory Council (ELAC)  
School Site Council (SSC)

### School Activities

Back to School Night  
Parent Information Nights  
Student Led Conferences  
Student Orientation  
Student Recognition Assemblies  
Technology Training Nights  
Title I Parent Meeting Nights

## School Facilities & Maintenance

The district takes great efforts to ensure that all schools are clean, safe, and functional through proper facilities maintenance and campus supervision. Desert Ridge Academy's original facilities were built in 2009; ongoing maintenance and campus improvements ensure facilities remain up to date and provide adequate space for students and staff. District maintenance and site custodial staff ensure that the repairs necessary to keep the school in good condition are completed in a timely manner. A work order process is used by school and district staff to communicate non-routine maintenance requests. Emergency repairs are given the highest priority.

Every morning before school begins, the custodian and three campus security agents inspect facilities for safety hazards or other conditions that need attention prior to students and staff entering school grounds. One day custodian and two evening custodians are assigned to Desert Ridge Academy. The day custodian is responsible for:

- Cafeteria setup/cleanup
- General grounds maintenance
- Lunch area setup/cleanup
- Restroom cleaning

Restrooms are checked throughout the day for cleanliness and subsequently cleaned as needed. The evening custodians are responsible for:

- Classroom cleaning
- Common use area cleaning
- Office area cleaning
- Restroom cleaning

The principal communicates with custodial staff daily concerning maintenance and school safety issues.

Campus Description	
Year Built	2009
Acreage	-
Square Footage	123,000
Quantity	
Permanent Classrooms	41
Portable Classrooms	0
Restrooms (sets)	18
Band Room	1
Library/Media Center	1
Multipurpose Room/Cafeteria	1
Outdoor Meal Area(s)	1
Staff Lounge/Work Room(s)	1
Computer Lab	1
Garden	1
Locker Rooms	1
Pavillion	1

## Facilities Inspection

The district's maintenance department inspects Desert Ridge Academy on an annual basis in accordance with Education Code §17592.72(c)(1). Desert Ridge Academy uses a school site inspection survey to identify unsafe or hazardous conditions and facility improvement needs. The most recent school inspection took place on Thursday, November 09, 2023. No emergency repairs were needed and no unsafe conditions were found. During fiscal year 2023-24, all restrooms were fully functional and available for student use at the time of the inspection.

School Facility Good Repair Status Most Recent Inspection: Thursday, November 09, 2023			
Item Inspected	Repair Status		
	Good	Fair	Poor
A. Systems	✓		
B. Interior	✓		
C. Cleanliness	✓		
D. Electrical	✓		
E. Restrooms / Fountains	✓		
F. Safety	✓		
G. Structural	✓		
H. External	✓		

Overall Summary of School Facility Good Repair Status			
Exemplary	Good	Fair	Poor
✓			

### Rating Description

*Exemplary: The school meets most or all standards of good repair. Deficiencies noted, if any, are not significant and/or impact a very small area of the school.*

## Campus Supervision

School administration and teaching staff place a high priority on providing adequate adult supervision on campus before, during, and after school. As students arrive on campus each morning, the principal, assistant principal, school site monitors, the middle school facilitator, three campus security agents, and assigned staff members patrol the campus, entrance areas, and designated common areas. The principal, assistant principal, three campus security agents, two school site monitors, and assigned staff members monitor lunch time activity in the cafeteria and common student activity areas. At the end of the day when students are dismissed, the principal, assistant principal, teachers, three campus security agents, two school site monitors, and assigned staff members monitor student behavior and ensure students either leave campus or travel to after-school activities in a safe and orderly manner.

Desert Ridge Academy is a closed campus. During school hours, all visitors must sign in at the school's office with a valid state issued identification to be scanned through the Raptor Security System and wear an identification sticker while on school grounds. They must then check out at the school office upon exit from the school site.



## School Site Safety Plan

The Comprehensive School Site Safety Plan was developed for Desert Ridge Academy in collaboration with local agencies and the district office to fulfill Senate Bill 187 requirements. Components of this plan include child abuse reporting procedures, teacher notification of dangerous pupil procedures, disaster response procedures, procedures for safe arrival and departure from school, sexual harassment policy, and dress code policy. The school's most recent school safety plan will be reviewed, updated, and discussed with school staff by March 1, 2024.

## Classroom Environment

### Discipline & Climate for Learning

Desert Ridge Academy's discipline practices and behavior management strategies comply with approved board policies and are designed to create effective learning environments and minimize classroom disruptions. Progressive discipline and proactive measures are employed in the classroom for those students experiencing difficulty following school rules and demonstrating positive behavior. Disciplinary intervention is managed by school administrators in a fair, firm, and consistent manner based upon the nature of each situation.

Suspensions & Expulsions			
	20-21	21-22	22-23
	School		
% Students Suspended	0.7	6.4	5.1
% Students Expelled	0.0	0.4	0.0
	District		
% Students Suspended	0.1	3.5	4.5
% Students Expelled	0.0	0.1	0.0
	State		
% Students Suspended	2.5	3.2	3.6
% Students Expelled	0.1	0.1	0.1

Suspensions and Expulsions by Student Group (2022-23)		
Student Group	Suspensions Rate	Expulsions Rate
All Students	5.1	0.0
Female	6.4	0.0
Male	3.9	0.0
Non-Binary	0.0	0.0
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0
Black or African-Amer.	40.0	0.0
Filipino	0.0	0.0
Hisp. or Latino	4.7	0.0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0
Two or More Races	0.0	0.0
White	2.6	0.0
English Learners	5.6	0.0
Foster Youth	7.7	0.0
Homeless	7.1	0.0
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	0.0	0.0
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	5.3	0.0
Students with Disabilities	8.4	0.0

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

### Class Size

The Class Size Distribution table in this report illustrates the distribution of class sizes by subject area, the average class size, and the number of classes that contain 1-22 students, 23-32 students, and 33 or more students. Calculations exclude classrooms of 50 or more students.

Average Class Size and Class Size Distribution				
Subject	2020-21			
	Avg. Class Size	Number of Classes		
		1-22	23-32	33+
English	26.0	10	16	11
Mathematics	28.0	5	17	5
Science	33.0	3	4	16
Social Science	29.0	4	10	12
Subject	2021-22			
	Avg. Class Size	Number of Classes		
		1-22	23-32	33+
English	25.0	12	10	12
Mathematics	28.0	3	12	9
Science	29.0	4	7	13
Social Science	30.0	5	2	16
Subject	2022-23			
	Avg. Class Size	Number of Classes		
		1-22	23-32	33+
English	25.0	13	12	10
Mathematics	29.0	6	8	12
Science	33.0	3		18
Social Science	31.0	4	3	16

\*Number of classes indicates how many classrooms fall into each size category (a range of total students per classroom). At the secondary level, this information is reported by subject area rather than grade level.

## Pupil Engagement

### Chronic Absenteeism

The following chart identifies the chronic absenteeism rates by student group for Desert Ridge Academy for the 2022-23 school year. A "chronic absentee" has been defined in EC Section 60901(c)(1) as "a pupil who is absent on 10 percent or more of the school days in the school year when the total number of days a pupil is absent is divided by the total number of days the pupil is enrolled and school was actually taught in the regular day schools of the district, exclusive of Saturdays and Sundays."

Chronic Absenteeism By Student Group (2022-23)				
Student Group	Cumulative Enrollment	Chronic Absenteeism Eligible Enrollment	Chronic Absenteeism Count	Chronic Absenteeism Rate
All Students	1098	1072	341	31.8
Female	551	532	164	30.8
Male	546	539	176	32.7
Amer. Indian or Alaska Native	5	5	2	40.0
Asian	8	8	1	12.5
Black or African-Amer.	15	15	4	26.7
Filipino	6	6	1	16.7
Hisp. or Latino	949	925	300	32.4
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	1	0	0.0
Two or More Races	11	11	5	45.5
White	78	76	20	26.3
English Learners	306	302	114	37.7
Foster Youth	13	10	5	50.0
Homeless	14	14	4	28.6
Students Receiving Migrant Ed. Services	6	6	1	16.7
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	899	875	298	34.1
Students with Disabilities	143	139	58	41.7

Note: Double dashes (--) appear in the table when the number of students is ten or fewer, either because the number of students in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

## Curriculum & Instruction

### Staff Development

All training and curriculum development activities at Desert Ridge Academy revolve around the California State Content Standards and Frameworks. During the 2022-23 school year, Desert Ridge Academy held staff development training devoted to:

- Common Core State Standards
- Data Analysis
- Best First Instruction Practices
- Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)
- Trauma Informed Practices
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Restorative Practices
- Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)
- Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS)

Decisions concerning selection of staff development activities are performed by all staff using tools such as teacher input and data analysis to determine the areas in which additional teacher training may enhance classroom instruction and increase student achievement levels. Desert Ridge Academy supports ongoing professional growth throughout the year on early release days. Teachers meet in both grade level and department level teams to conduct data analysis to identify areas of need. Teaching staff are provided the opportunity to participate in district-sponsored staff development workshops or training sessions as 1) a supplement to site-based staff development, 2) for reinforcement of or follow-up on previous training, or 3) follow-up training for newly implemented programs/curricula.

During the 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 school years, Desert Ridge Academy's teachers had the opportunity to attend the following events hosted by the Desert Sands Unified School District:

#### 2021-22 Training:

- i-Ready
- AVID Strategies
- Synergy Assessment
- Digital Citizenship
- Mystery Science
- Coding

#### 2022-23 Training:

- i-Ready Math Curriculum Support
- ICLE - Rigor, Relevance, Relationships and Engagement
- Process Writing
- Neurodiversity Training
- Digital Citizenship
- Integrated ELD
- Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
- Measuring Student Outcomes
- Educational Technology
- Dual Language Immersion
- Tier II Site Team Training & Coaching
- World Language Framework & New Curriculum Training (Spanish & French)
- Secondary Science - Gizmos and Curriculum Support
- Ethnic Studies
- Social Science - DBQ, Newsela
- AVID Pathways Training
- ELA Training on UDL & Engaging Learning Environments that are Inclusive
- Math Training on New Framework & Review of New Publisher Materials
- SEIS Support Sessions

#### 2023-24 Training:

- Digital Citizenship, Student Data & Privacy, DSUSD Digital Resources
- Integrated ELD (including data, ELPAC levels, ELlevation, academic supports)
- Universal Design for Learning
- Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS)
- SPSA and Strategic Planning
- Tier I Site Leadership
- Educational Technology (Google Apps, LFDs, Synergy Assessments, Grade Book, Engagement Tools, Classified Google Training)
- Tier II Site Team Training and Coaching
- Dual Language Immersion
- Reclassification for Dually Identified Students
- MTSS Training
- AVID Pathways Training
- Secondary ELA Training on UDL and Engaging Learning Environments that are Inclusive
- World Language Framework and New Curriculum Training for Spanish and French
- Secondary Science - Gizmos and Curriculum Support
- Ethnic Studies

- High School Math Teacher Training on New Textbooks
- Administering and Scoring Academic Assessments
- MindSet Training
- Middle School Math Teachers Training on New Framework, UDL, SEL

Desert Ridge Academy offers support to new and veteran teachers through peer coaching and mentoring. Instructional aides are provided targeted training focused on teaching strategies and curriculum content. Substitute teachers are invited to participate in designated staff development activities. All staff are encouraged to attend professional workshops and conferences. Classified support staff receive job-related training from department supervisors and district representatives.

Number of School Days Dedicated to Staff Development and Continuous Improvement		
2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
2	2	2

### Instructional Materials

All textbooks used in the core curriculum at Desert Ridge Academy are aligned to the California Content Standards and Frameworks. Instructional materials are selected from the state's most recent list of standards-based materials and adopted by the State Board of Education. The district follows the State Board of Education's eight-year adoption cycle for core content materials (English/language arts, math, science, and social science).

On Tuesday, October 03, 2023, the Desert Sands Unified School District's Board of Education held a public hearing to certify the extent to which textbooks and instructional materials have been provided to students. The Board of Education adopted Resolution No. 08/2023-2024 which certifies as required by Education Code §60119 (1) that textbooks and instructional materials were provided to all students, including English learners, in the district to the extent that each pupil has a textbook or instructional materials, or both, to use in class and to take home, and (2) sufficient textbooks and instructional materials were provided to each student, including English learners, that are aligned to the academic content standards and consistent with the cycles and content of the curriculum frameworks in math, science, history-social science, and English/language arts.

In addition to core subject areas, districts are required to disclose in their SARCS the sufficiency of instructional materials used for their visual/performing arts curricula. During the 2023-24 school year, Desert Sands Unified School District provided each student, including English learners, enrolled in a visual/performing arts class with a textbook or instructional materials to use in class and to take home. These materials complied with the state's content standards and curriculum frameworks.

Textbooks		
Adoption Year	Publisher & Series	Pupils Lacking Textbooks
<b>English Language Arts</b>		
2017	McGraw Hill, <i>Study Sync</i>	0 %
<b>Foreign Languages</b>		
2018	Saavas Learning Company, LLC, <i>Autentico</i>	0 %
2023	Vista Higher Learning, <i>Chemins</i>	0 %
<b>Health</b>		
2004	Holt, Rinehart and Winston, <i>Decisions for Health</i>	0 %
2018	Positive Prevention Plus, <i>Sexual Health HIV Education</i>	0 %
<b>History-Social Science</b>		
2019	McGraw Hill, <i>California Impact</i>	0 %
<b>Mathematics</b>		
2015	McGraw, <i>California Math CCSS Course 1-3</i>	0 %
<b>Science</b>		
2019	McGraw Hill, <i>California Inspire Science</i>	0 %

## Professional Staff

### Counseling & Support Staff

Desert Ridge Academy provides professional, highly qualified staff that provide additional services and support centered on the whole student academically, physically, and mentally. The Counseling and Support Services table in this report illustrates the availability of non-instructional support staff to Desert Ridge Academy's students. Full-time equivalent (FTE) is a standard measurement used to identify an employee's regular work load on a weekly basis. For example, an FTE of 1.0 designates a full-time position and the employee is on campus and available all day every day of the week; an FTE of 0.5 indicates that the staff member is available and on campus a portion (50%) of the week.

Academic Counselors & Other Support Staff (Nonteaching Professional Staff) 2022-23		
	No. of Staff	FTE
Academic Counselor	3	3.0
Campus Security Officers	3	3.0
Adaptive PE	1	*
Health Assistant	1	*
Instructional Coach	1	1.0
Media Specialist	1	1.0
Middle School Facilitator	1	1.0
Nurse	1	*
Psychologist	1	0.5
Speech/Language/Hearing Specialist	1	0.5
Counselor-to-Student Ratio: 1:343		

\* as needed

Note: One Full Time Equivalent (FTE) equals one staff member working full time; one FTE could also represent two staff members who each work 50% of full time.

## Teacher Preparation and Placement

The charts below identify the number of teachers at Desert Ridge Academy, Desert Sands Unified School District and the State who are 1) fully credentialed; 2) intern credential holders who are properly assigned; 3) teachers without credentials and misassignments; and 4) credentialed teachers who are assigned out-of-field under ESSA.

The charts also report Desert Ridge Academy information related to 1) the number of teachers on permits and waivers; 2) the number misassigned; 3) the number of vacant positions; 4) the number of credentialed teachers authorized on a permit or waiver; 5) the number of local assignment options; 6) the percent of misassignments for English Learners; and 7) the percent with no credential, permit or authorization to teach.

Teacher Preparation and Placement Authorization / Assignment (2021-22)	School Number	School Percent	District Number	District Percent	State Number	State Percent
Fully (Preliminary or Clear) Credentialed for Subject and Student Placement (properly assigned)	32.7	83.8	1038.9	89.9	234405.2	84.0
Intern Credential Holders Properly Assigned	0.0	0.0	8.9	0.8	4853.0	1.7
Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments ("ineffective" under ESSA)	2.3	6.0	13.9	1.2	12001.5	4.3
Credentialed Teachers Assigned Out-of-Field ("out-of-field" under ESSA)	1.1	3.0	43.6	3.8	11953.1	4.3
Unknown	2.8	7.2	50.4	4.4	15831.9	5.7
Total Teaching Positions	39.1	100.0	1156.0	100.0	279044.8	100.0

Teacher Preparation and Placement Authorization / Assignment (2020-21)	School Number	School Percent	District Number	District Percent	State Number	State Percent
Fully (Preliminary or Clear) Credentialed for Subject and Student Placement (properly assigned)	33.1	87.1	1022.7	89.8	228366.1	83.1
Intern Credential Holders Properly Assigned	0.8	2.2	8.4	0.7	4205.9	1.5
Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments ("ineffective" under ESSA)	0.9	2.6	5.2	0.5	11216.7	4.1
Credentialed Teachers Assigned Out-of-Field ("out-of-field" under ESSA)	1.0	2.6	42.6	3.8	12115.8	4.4
Unknown	2.0	5.4	60.1	5.3	18854.3	6.9
Total Teaching Positions	38.0	100.0	1139.3	100.0	274759.1	100.0

Note: The data in this table is based on Full Time Equivalent (FTE) status. One FTE equals one staff member working full time; one FTE could also represent two staff members who each work 50 percent of full time. Additionally, an assignment is defined as a position that an educator is assigned to based on setting, subject, and

grade level. An Authorization is defined as the services that an educator is authorized to provide to students.

Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments (Considered "ineffective" under ESSA) Authorization/Assignment (2021-22)	Number
Permits and Waivers	0.0
Misassignments	2.3
Vacant Positions	0.0
Total Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments	2.3

Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments (Considered "ineffective" under ESSA) Authorization/Assignment (2020-21)	Number
Permits and Waivers	0.0
Misassignments	0.9
Vacant Positions	0.0
Total Teachers Without Credentials and Misassignments	0.9

Credentialed Teachers Assigned Out-of-Field (Considered "out-of-field" under ESSA) / Indicator (2021-22)	Number
Credentialed Teachers Authorized on a Permit or Waiver	0.9
Local Assignment Options	0.1
Total Out-of-Field Teachers	1.1

Credentialed Teachers Assigned Out-of-Field (Considered "out-of-field" under ESSA) / Indicator (2020-21)	Number
Credentialed Teachers Authorized on a Permit or Waiver	1.0
Local Assignment Options	0.0
Total Out-of-Field Teachers	1.0

Class Assignments / Indicator (2021-22)	Percent
Misassignments for English Learners (a percentage of all the classes with English Learners taught by teachers that are misassigned)	7.5
No credential, permit or authorization to teach (a percentage of all the classes taught by teachers with no record of an authorization to teach)	0.0

Class Assignments / Indicator (2020-21)	Percent
Misassignments for English Learners (a percentage of all the classes with English Learners taught by teachers that are misassigned)	2.4
No credential, permit or authorization to teach (a percentage of all the classes taught by teachers with no record of an authorization to teach)	4.5

Note: For more information, refer to the Updated Teacher Equity Definitions web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ee/teacherequitydefinitions.asp>

## District Expenditures

### Salary & Budget Comparison

State law requires comparative salary and budget information to be reported to the general public. For comparison purposes, the State Department of Education has provided average salary data from school districts having similar average daily attendance throughout the state. (Note: 2021-22 salary comparison data was the most recent data available at the time this report was published.)

Teacher and Administrative Salaries 2021-22		
	District	State Average of Districts in Same Category
Beginning Teacher Salary	\$55,526	\$55,550
Mid-Range Teacher Salary	\$89,938	\$80,703
Highest Teacher Salary	\$111,847	\$109,418
Superintendent Salary	\$297,882	\$319,443
<b>Average Principal Salaries:</b>		
Elementary School	\$146,275	\$137,703
Middle School	\$154,132	\$143,760
High School	\$176,448	\$159,021
<b>Percentage of Budget:</b>		
Teacher Salaries	30.71%	30.35%
Administrative Salaries	4.04%	4.87%

For detailed information on salaries, see the CDE Certificated Salaries & Benefits Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/cs/>.

## Expenditures Per Student

For the 2021-22 school year, Desert Sands Unified School District spent an average of \$17,444 of total general funds to educate each student (based on 2021-22 audited financial statements and in accordance with calculations defined in Education Code §41372). The table in this report 1) compares the school's per pupil expenditures from unrestricted (basic) and restricted (supplemental) sources with other schools in the district and throughout the state, and 2) compares the average teacher salary at the school site with average teacher salaries at the district and state levels. Detailed information regarding salaries can be found at the CDE website at [www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/ec/](http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/ec/) and [www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/cs/](http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/cs/). (The figures shown in the table below reflect the direct cost of educational services, per ADA, excluding food services, facilities acquisition and construction, and certain other expenditures.)

In addition to general fund state funding, Desert Sands Unified School District receives state and federal categorical funding for special programs. For the 2021-22 school year, the district received categorical, special education, and support programs funds for:

- A-G Completion Grant
- After School Education & Safety (ASES)
- After School Kids Code Grant Pilot Program
- Career and Technical Education Programs
- Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program
- Child Nutrition: Food Service Staff Training Funds
- Child Nutrition: Kitchen Infrastructure Upgrade Funds
- COVID Relief Funding
- Education Protection Account
- Educator Effectiveness
- Expanded Learning Opportunities Program
- Governor's CTE Initiative: CA Partnership Academies
- Head Start Program
- Indian Education
- Lottery: Instructional Materials
- Mental Health-Related Services
- On-Behalf Pension Contributions
- Other Local: Locally Defined
- Other State: Locally Defined
- Partnership Academies Program
- Special Education
- Special Education Early Intervention Preschool Grant
- State COVID Relief Funding
- State Lottery
- Strong Workforce Program
- Title I
- Title II
- Title III
- Title IV
- Tobacco-Use Prevention Education

Expenditures Per Pupil and School Site Teacher Salaries 2021-22					
	Dollars Spent per Student				
	% Diff. School & Dist.			% Diff. School & State	
	School	District	State		
Total**	\$9,480	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Restricted	\$2,512	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Unrestricted	\$6,967	\$7,522	92.62	\$7,607	91.60
Average Teacher Salary	\$91,114	\$94,276	96.65	\$87,885	103.67

Note: Cells with N/A values do not require data.

## SARC Data

### DataQuest

DataQuest is an online data tool located on the CDE DataQuest web page at <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/> that contains additional information about Desert Ridge Academy and comparisons of the school to the district and the county. DataQuest is a dynamic system that provides reports for school accountability (e.g., test data, enrollment, high school graduates, dropouts, course enrollments, staffing and data regarding English learners).

### California School Dashboard

The California School Dashboard (Dashboard) <https://www.caschooldashboard.org/> reflects California's new accountability and continuous improvement system and provides information about how LEAs and schools are meeting the needs of California's diverse student population. The Dashboard contains reports that display the performance of LEAs, schools, and student groups on a set of state and local measures to assist in identifying strengths, challenges, and areas in need of improvement.

### Internet

Internet access is available at public libraries and other locations that are publicly accessible (e.g., the California State Library). Access to the Internet at libraries and public locations is generally provided on a first-come, first served basis. Other use restrictions may include the hours of operation, the length of time that a workstation may be used (depending on availability), the types of software programs available on a workstation and the ability to print documents.

### Disclosure

The statistical information disclosed in this report is obtained from the California Department of Education and the Desert Sands Unified School District. At the time of publication, this report met all SARC-related state and federal requirements, using the most current data available. Data to prepare the instructional materials section were acquired in October 2023. Data to prepare the school facilities section were acquired in January 2024.