



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- DRA graduation will be held September 27th, 2019.
- Parent 101 Workshop will be held on September 20th, 2019. To RSVP, please contact Tayler Ellsworth by emailing tayler.ellsworth@diamondranchacademy.com.

REMINDERS:

- Please make sure that all visits are planned at least (3) days prior to the visit day.
- You are welcome to contact your Parent Communication Director during office hours, which are 6:30am MST and 3:00pm MST. They can be reached via email and text message.
- Student Request forms will be sent out every Thursday/Friday.
- Letters to your student will be printed out and delivered to your child Monday-Friday until 4:00pm MST. No letters will be sent or delivered on weekends or holidays. Please include your student's full name in the subject line.
- To set up transportation for your student's home visit please contact Tayler Ellsworth by emailing tayler.ellsworth@diamondranchacademy.com.
- When calling the front desk, please have your student's user name and password available.

the **DRA** way
September 2019

Academics

Did you know?

DRA is a standing testing center for the April and September ACT tests. That means that your student can take the ACT on DRA's campus surrounded by staff that they already know and trust. This is to ensure that your student does their absolute best on testing day. Information on how to register for DRA sponsored tests will be emailed out before registration deadlines. If you are interested in your child taking the ACT at any of these dates, please contact Alyx Stuehler at alyx.stuehler@diamondranchacademy.com for more information. The next ACT is **December 12th** and it will be off campus.



Chalk the Block

Chalk the Block for Charity at the Shops at the Riverwoods is a three-day event that supports children with Autism. Rod and Justine Peterson, two Diamond Ranch Employees, joined the cause and created this amazing work of art. The two created a chalk mural of the state NBA basketball team, The Utah Jazz. Their mural featured three NBA players: Rudy Gobert, Donovan Mitchell, and Mike Conley. All three of these NBA players posted about the mural on their social media accounts in support of the event!

Diamondback Service



Recently DRA students were able to participate in a creative service project. Corn hole boards were built by the woodshop class and then painted by members of the art club. The game boards were donated to the charity Empower Me Up. Here is a photo of student Jared passing the boards off to board president Dan Ritchey!



Campus Update : Skatepark



One of the favorite free-time activities for our students is spending time out at the skatepark. Students can bring their scooters and skateboards from home to use on this one of a kind course. This last month a new section was added to the skatepark to expand it as well as add new housing for the student's boards and scooters. It looks and feels like a real skate shop with all the boards displayed on the walls. Owners Rob and Sherri Dias take pride in Diamond Ranch and are constantly finding ways to improve the campus we all call home.

Parent Coaching Highlight: Taken from: The Parental Disunity Trap

Parental Disunity undermines the relationships in the family. Sometimes one parent needs approval and will try to show love to a child by rescuing them or by taking sides against the other parent. This models a distrustful relationship. The relationship between parents must be protected. Parents should be loyal to each other; unaffected by the divisive strategies of children or others.

Good Cop/Bad Cop? Don't let one parent play Santa Claus while the other parent carries the burden of discipline alone. For the sake of the children parents need to agree on their parenting philosophy. They need to be consistent and avoid the good cop/bad cop game.

Parents, is it OK to disagree? Yes, of course. It is OK for parents to disagree in front of their children, but they should not be disagreeable. Parents disagree, all couples disagree. When the parents model how to disagree in a healthy manner by speaking rationally and respectfully, without raised voices or personal attacks, the disagreement and resolution can benefit the children.



Athletics



Baseball:

Baseball season is well underway here at DRA. The boys have practices every day to improve their game and team unity. The skills they learn on the field will help them in their everyday life. They are having a good season and have won several games and tournaments. Way to go boys!



Volleyball:

The volleyball team practices hard every day, some of the girls even practice multiple times a day. They are all having a blast throughout this season! The coaches are doing amazing and they put in a lot of extra time and effort for these girls! It is paying off as the team just won their first game!



Attention DRA fans:



A new all-exclusive online clothing store has opened with the intent to clothe and outfit DRA families and fans. You can now purchase Under Armor clothing in collaboration with Diamond Ranch. New styles will be added and changed up monthly so you will always have the latest fashion trends to wear to sporting events or on visits with your students. The store will be open the first week of each month. Speak with your student's PCD for store details and access codes!

Employee of the Month:

Academic Danielle Ipson



Danielle has gone above and beyond to build rapport with students and parents needing academic information. Danielle is always upbeat and willing to assist when needed. Thank you for being amazing!

Girls' Programming Viviana Bacon



Viviana continues to learn and grow and does a great job with the girls. She has worked hard to memorize the level work and always contributes to DRA! Thanks for all you do for DRA and the students!

Clinical Sage Olson



Sage builds rapport with her students quickly and always puts a lot of pre-planning in to help her students move forward. Thank you, Sage, for your ongoing effort, dedication to the team, and the families you work with.

Administration Mason Bangert



Mason has proven himself to be a valuable addition to our IT team. He is quick to respond to staff needs and is extremely reliable and efficient. We are so grateful to have him on our team. Congratulations, Mason!

Boys' Programming Randon Syphus



Randon is always extremely helpful and willing to do extra jobs around campus. He has a great attitude and brings his positivity to the whole team. We are super grateful and proud to have Randon at DRA!

Medical Kellyn Larson



Kellyn has been at DRA for nearly 3.5 years and is Mr. consistent/dependable. The students enjoy his quick wit and easy-going personality. His hard work is invaluable within the medical department, and we greatly appreciate all he does.

Employee of the Month:

Culinary Kaylee Stevenson



Kaylee joined our team a few months ago and has been an awesome addition! She is always looking for extra ways to help out the culinary team and those around her. Thank you for all you do for Diamond Ranch Kaylee!

Admissions Nicole Manutai



Nicole is an incredible employee and individual! Nicole is such a hard worker and consistently goes above and beyond! We are so lucky to have Nicole on our team and sincerely appreciate her!

Director Ashli Brown



Congratulations to Ashli. Ashli continues to do a phenomenal job and is constantly improving. We are thankful for all that she does for Diamond Ranch and we are happy to have her!

Physical Facilities Jerek Spendlove



Jerek has been a hard worker during his time here at DRA. We never have to worry about him being productive, he's self-motivated and has been a great addition to the school. Thanks for all you do Jerek!

Night Watch Chris Garcia



Night watch would like to highlight Chris as the employee of the month. He is always willing to help out other members of the team and is willing to do the hard things night watch requires. Thank you for all you do Chris!

Benefit Roundup:



Boys' campus was full of fun and games this month. A group of young men played mini-golf while others had Nerf Gun wars in the school gym. Some of the favorite events from this past month include swimming and rock climbing at the Washington Rec Center, having a signature burger cook-off, and having a three-on-three basketball competition. Good job to everyone who qualified for the benefits this month!



Boys!



Girls' campus stayed just a busy this last month with their weekend benefits. Some of the favorites included a painting party with tea in the mountains, going to the park, going down the giant water slide, and making custom smoothies. Girl's campus has been awesome about coming up with new and exciting ideas for their weekend activities and the girls are soaking up every bit of it!

Girls!

