

Elise Spivey, My Cheyenne Experience

Everyday people tell you to look at the grand scheme of things. They say that so much of what you do won't matter years from now. Boy, were they wrong! As a senior in high school looking forward to college, I can say confidently that Cheyenne has molded me into the person I am today.

From an educational standpoint, I quickly realized that I was way ahead of the other high school students. I was so prepared that I often found myself almost bored as the teachers had to take extra time to go over many things that were already embedded in me, such as how to format essays, take notes, and even how to study! Something unique that Cheyenne offered to me was the Toastmasters program, which allowed me to gain confidence in public speaking, which I soon found was a rare entity among the high school population. To this day, I feel like I have an edge over many other students because of the high standards I was held to at Cheyenne and the solid foundation it set for me.

Cheyenne stands out because it is small. Many people may see this as a disadvantage, but for me it proved to be extremely advantageous as I was able to try new things and gain leadership opportunity that I transferred over to high school. Being National Junior Honor Society President at Cheyenne was a unique opportunity that I may not have had at a bigger school. This experience in a leadership role enabled me to become National Honor Society President, Student Body Vice President, Junior Class Secretary/Treasurer, Science National Honor Society Vice-President, and Physics Club Secretary in high school.

More than anything, Cheyenne gave me a backbone that no other elementary or middle school could have given me. Each and every teacher I had led by example and taught me that I could do anything. From kindergarten to 8th grade I was taught something that no textbook could ever teach me. I was taught to care about others, tell the truth and find what I was passionate about. I am so happy that I can look back on my elementary and middle school career and remember nothing but good times in a strong tight-knit community. To this day I am still friends with many of the Cheyenne students I graduated with, regardless of the high school they attend!

And HUGE shout outs to Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. McCarthy, Mrs. DiTallo, Ms. Morgan, and Mr. Krusniak for being the best of the best☺. And a very special thank you to Mrs. McDonough and Toastmaster Mike. They made a huge impact on my life.

Hi Ms. Lax,

I received your email and wanted to share with you and the Cheyenne PTO how Cheyenne has prepared me to become the 2016/2017 Student Body President of Desert Mountain High School!

I was a student at Cheyenne for nine inspiring years! Although my primary years were full of growth it was my 7th and 8th grade classes that truly challenged me to prepare for high school level curriculum and school involvement. Entering Freshman and even Sophomore year I felt I was more developed in knowledge than that of students from surrounding schools, especially in English and Spanish. I have taken honors/AP English all four years at Desert Mountain as well as honors Spanish, Science, and History classes, and dual enrollment for both Spanish and English. The privileges of being involved in toastmasters, yearbook, volleyball, basketball, talent shows, cheerleading and encouraging words from some amazing teachers at Cheyenne have contributed to my StuGo success and the ability to speak and debate in front of the 2,000 plus students and faculty at DMHS. We, the Roadrunner Seniors, still brag about those special teachers who impacted our lives with confidence and self-worthiness!

At Cheyenne we are encouraged to care about others and to not put others down. These are the greatest qualities in student leadership. Being a leader by example is expected the first day we stepped foot on campus at Cheyenne. The teachers and administration influence all students, not only to be the best we can be, but give us the courage to stand on our own. At Cheyenne every student acquires the ability to strengthen and inspire those around them. I have brought those qualities to Desert Mountain, which I believe gave me the confidence to gain the Student Body President position. In StuGo we plan events and activities such as Wolves' Walk, homecoming/prom, assemblies, charity functions, and donation collections that require leadership skills. Growing up already having the ability to guide and impact the lives of my peers has benefited me in the role I play as a student leader.

In a few short months, as Student Body President, I will have the honor of addressing my graduating class at the 2017 Desert Mountain commencement ceremony. This fall I plan to attend the college of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Arizona State University. After my years at Cheyenne I know that I can accomplish anything I put my mind to if I have the courage to pursue it. I am truly grateful and blessed for those who inspired me and touched my heart at Cheyenne.

Thank you for letting me share what I love most about Cheyenne! I hope to come visit everyone soon!

Sincerely,
Katherine Anderson

P.S. Legally Blonde the Musical will be performed at DMHS March 22-24 at 7 p.m. Many former roadrunners including Griffin Pogue, Kyle Watkins, Alek Rahman, Brenna Kayce, Anna Vitale, and I will be a part of! It should be a great show so feel free to tell anyone about it! 😊