

Using Your Graduation Coach to Effectively Ensure High Levels of Student Performance

September 25, 2025

Session Goals

- Share strategies, procedures, traditions, and accomplishments in working effectively with students in an alternative school.
- Provide an overview of effective uses of a Graduation Coach



The Importance of a Graduation Coach

The role of a graduation coach extends beyond academic support to include social, emotional, and career guidance. Ways a graduation coach may be utilized are:

1. Personalized support and motivation
2. Addressing academic struggles
3. Developing study skills and time management
4. Addressing behavioral and social challenges
5. Encouraging college and career readiness
6. Identifying at-risk students early
7. Promoting a positive school culture
8. Encouraging students in the monitoring of graduation plans

About Phoenix High School



How many students are being served by Phoenix High School and who are they?



Phoenix High School Demographic Data

We have served 127 students so far during the 2025-2026 school year.

- 13% have an IEP
- 18% are EL students
- 3% are gifted students
- 50% White
- 44% Hispanic
- 2% Black
- 4% Two or more races
- 13 students are served through McKinney-Vento

What is Working?

Academic Support

Individualized
Graduation Plans/
Intake Meetings

Extended Day/
Saturday School

Digital Data Wall

Qualified/
Experienced Staff

Mental Health Support

Addition of a
Mental Health
Counselor

Social Workers

Connections and
Collaboration

Digital Data Wall

College and/or Career Planning

Accelerated
Career Diploma

Dual Enrollment

Career Academy
Classes

Advisement

Positive Behaviors Support

Graduation Coach

Contacts and
Connections

District Support
(Respect,
Responsibility and
Relationships)

Digital Data Wall


Sample Graduation Plan

Cohort _____

of Credits _____

NAME: _____

School Coming From _____

 Phoenix High School Graduation Requirements - 23 Credits								
GRADE		MATH (4 Credits)		ENGLISH (4 Credits)		SCIENCE (4 Credits)		SOCIAL STUDIES (4 Credits)
9th	<input type="checkbox"/>	Algebra	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ninth Literature / Literature & Composition 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Science / Chemistry*	<input type="checkbox"/>	World History
10th	<input type="checkbox"/>	Geometry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tenth Literature / Literature & Composition 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Biology	<input type="checkbox"/>	US History
11th	<input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced Algebra*	<input type="checkbox"/>	American Literature / Literature & Composition 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Science / Physics*	<input type="checkbox"/>	American Government
12th	<input type="checkbox"/>	4th Math Option: ~ Adv. Financial Algebra* ~ Adv. Math Decision Making* ~ College Readiness Math* ~ Pre-Calculus*	<input type="checkbox"/>	4th English Option: ~ British Lit. ~ Literature & Composition 4 ~ World Lit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	4th Science Option: ~ Animal Science ~ Computer Science ~ Food for Life	<input type="checkbox"/>	Economics

*Meets Hope rigor requirements (4 needed)

PATHWAY

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

ELECTIVES

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ HEALTH (required) _____

☐ PERSONAL FITNESS (required) _____

DUAL ENROLLMENT

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

Digital Data Wall

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	NEEDS	IEP/ 504/ Approved to finish at 70%	HHB Info	Turns 20	Other
Clair	Annette	has 16 credits; needs 5 academics, 2 electives				
Tim	Burr	working on 2 GNTC Certificates	EL / ESS Student			Accelerated Career Diploma - GNTC
Colleen	Cardd	has 15.5 credits; needs 6 academic, 3 electives				
Sonny	Day	finish his 2nd GNTC DE certificate				Accelerated Career Diploma - GNTC
Dill	Eavery	has 17 credits; needs 5 academics, 1 elective	EL student			
Douglas	Furr	has 18.5 credits; needs 5 academics				
Olive	Green	waiting on records; requested 8/21				turns 19 in Oct 2025
Tommy	Hawk	eligible for Fall term IEA? Has 6 credits	IEA / EL Student			coded as 10th, turns 18 December 2025
Candy	Kane	has 15 credits; needs 5 academic, 3 electives - interested in WBL				Jr on track to finish by May 2026
Ali	Katt	has 21 credits; needs 5 academic				coming to us after dropping out from CCHS in 2025; 5th year senior
Noah	Lott	has 7 credits; needs 13 academics, 3 electives				
Willie	Makeit	**met all high school grad requirements**	EL student			taking DE with GNTC beginning FALL 2025
Cam	Payne	has 14 credits; needs 9 academics				

College and Career Readiness

- 6 Phoenix students are enrolled in Whitfield County College and Career Academy classes
- 5 students are participating in Dual Enrollment classes for the fall semester
- 5 students are currently pursuing the Accelerated Career Diploma (welding and diesel mechanics)
- Work Based Learning
- Career and Military information sessions

A Day in the Life of a Graduation Coach

- Visibility
- Weekly check-ins and Saturday School Follow up
- Relationship building and connections to resources
- Graduation celebration and exit conversation
- End of day progress checks
- Collaboration with teachers, counselors, and administrators

Check-Ins and Data Collection

Monday	
Parham	
Clair Anette- cosmetology	9/1/25
Tim Burr- Accelerated Career diesel mechanic	emailed 9/1/25
Colleen Card- healthcare; add Spanish 2 for DSC?	9/1/25
Sonny Day- workforce, possibly Shaw	9/1/25
Dill Eavery- Accelerated Career welding	emailed instructor
Douglas Furr- workforce; resume for Shaw	9/1/25
Olive Green- follow up with previous school	
Tommy Hawk- workforce; discussed attendance	9/1/25
Candy Kane- cosmetology	9/1/25
Ali Katt- early childhood education	HHB
Noah Lott- Marines	9/1/25
Willie Makeit- possibly lineman school	finished 9/1/25
Cam Payne- GNTC welding	9/1/25

Relationship Building

- Welcome postcards to each student
- Wellness walks
- Help students make connections with campus resources
- Positive notes home and parent contact

Graduation and Next Steps



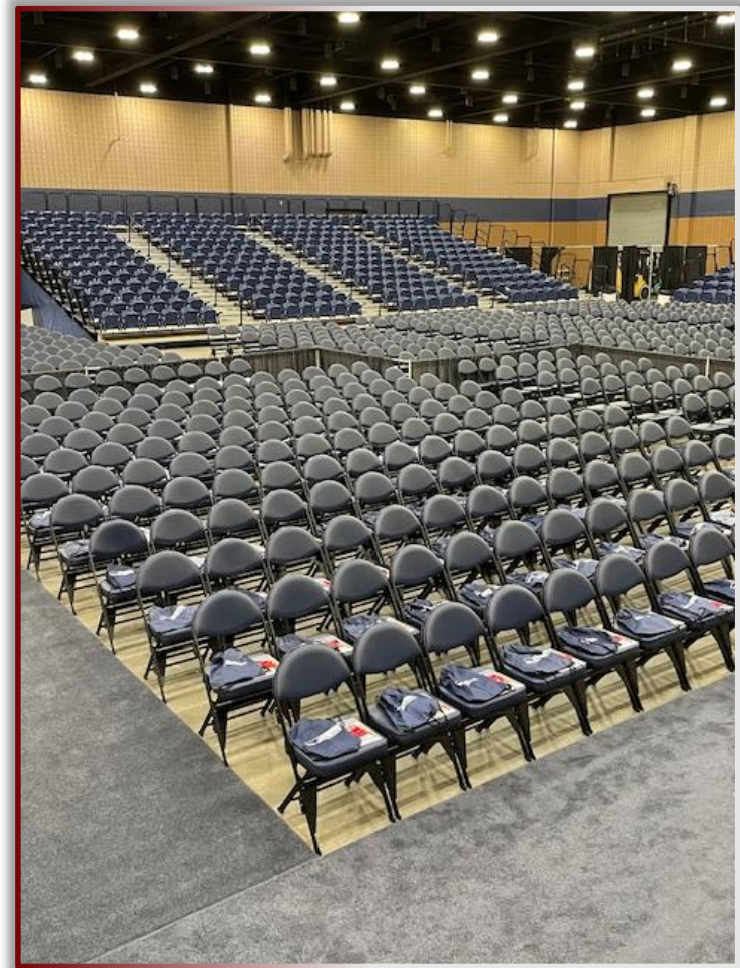
Graduation Data

2024 Graduation Data

- 185 graduates
- 78.57% graduation rate (increase of 19.71%)

2025

- 165 graduates
- Approximately 79% graduation rate

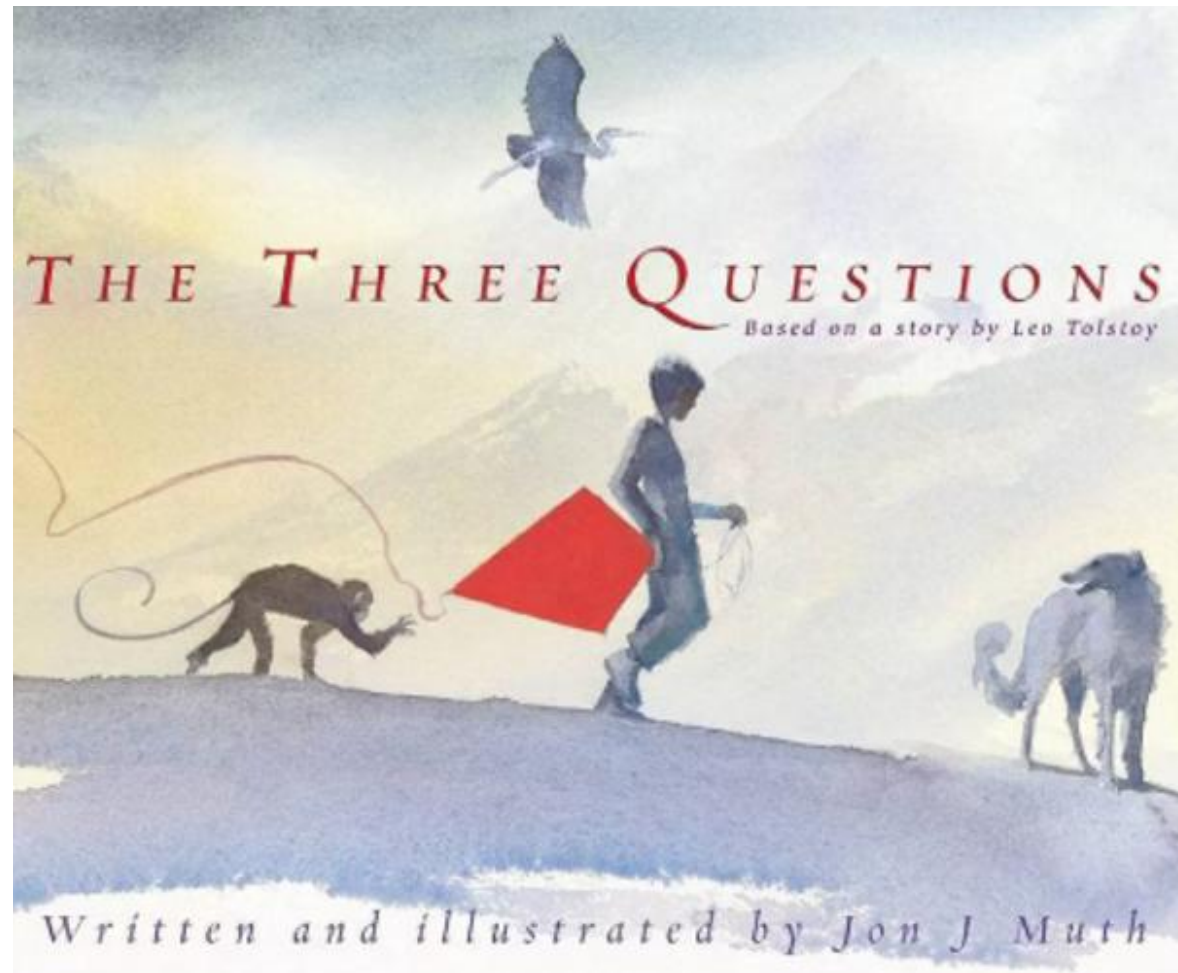


Search and Rescue

- 14 students contacted and reenrolled
- 7 students attended summer school
- 2 summer graduates
- 35 parent contacts
- 69 individualized post cards to returning students



The Three Questions



Next Steps

- Who is the most important one?
- When is the most important time?
- What is the most important thing to do?

Questions and Answers



Contact Information

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