

# Student SPOTLIGHT



De'Andre  
Grade 7  
Sierra School of Peoria

De'Andre says he, "used to do crazy things like get mad and yell at my teachers and classmates. Sometimes, I would get really mad and try to hurt other people. I've gotten a lot of help with controlling myself. Now I get to go on a tour and see a new school where I will have more opportunities. It's been hard work, but my family and my teachers never gave up on me."

De'Andre has attended Sierra School of Peoria since 2018. His current teacher, Mr. Brandon, has seen a significant change since he's known De'Andre and shares "being very aware of his peers made it very difficult for De'Andre to stay on track and work toward his ultimate goal of a transition to a traditional Jr. High School." But things started to turn around.

Working through the difficulties that come with changes of new classrooms, new staff, and new peers over the years, De'Andre has worked very hard to improve his ability to ignore the negative behaviors of others, participating in academic tasks, problem solving, listening to others, taking advice, taking time to process and becoming less argumentative were all happening on a regular basis. De'Andre fully bought into the CASE curriculum and focused on his personal goals. Mr. Brandon shared, "Although I haven't De'Andre's teacher for long, I have known him since I joined the Sierra team. He has grown into a responsible, capable, mature young man. We wish him nothing but the best as he explores his new opportunities.

Congratulations to De'Andre! All of the staff and your friends at Sierra School of Peoria are so proud of you.



Sierra School of Peoria  
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