

August 2024

Our Pack Has Your Back



Dear Colina Pack,

As we finish our second week of school I am filled with joy and gratitude. Students, staff and families have been working hard to adapt to new classrooms, curriculum, procedures and routines. I am so proud of all our students for following the 4 B's and demonstrating what it means to be a Cool Coyote! We have started this new year with enthusiasm as we welcomed our familiar faces and new faces to the pack.

Our theme this year is "Our Pack Has Your Back!" We aim to work together as a pack from our students and staff to our caregivers and community members. As we work together in our community, we need to lean into each other and have each other's back. When we do this, we can all grow and thrive. We model this with our students by demonstrating ways to be kind and helpful to each cool coyote. We model this in the way we partner with our families and work together to find solutions. We are a community and I am looking forward to seeing all the wonderful ways we can back the pack this year.

August is packed with exciting things you won't want to miss! Our PTO has it's first official kick-off next Friday, August 9th at Peter Piper Pizza from 4-8PM. There is just nothing better than mingling with families, playing games, and of course, eating yummy pizza. Please plan on joining me for this fun-filled family event! On August 20th, we invite all our Dads, Step-dads, grandfathers, uncles and any other male influences to our annual Watch DOGS kick-off to learn about this amazing system of support. Stay and enjoy pizza, learn about the Watch DOGS program and meet our PTO community members following after.

Thank you for such a great start to the school year! "Our Pack Has Your Back!"

Emily Pieper, Kyrene de la Colina
Proud Principal

Drop-Off/Pick-Up Procedures

Please use the below to familiarize yourself with our arrival and dismissal map. Parent parking will now be available in the front of the school beginning after the first bell at 7:25-2:15PM. **Please note, at 2:15 we will cone off this entrance for parking to ensure safety bus loading procedures and timely bus departures.**

Arrival Procedures: Students may enter through the North or South gate from 7:00-7:25 when the first bell rings. The playground will be closed to anyone other than staff and students.

Parent Walk-Up- You may park and walk your child to one of the gates if you wish. Please utilize the large parking lot and cross at the designated crosswalk circled in red on the map.

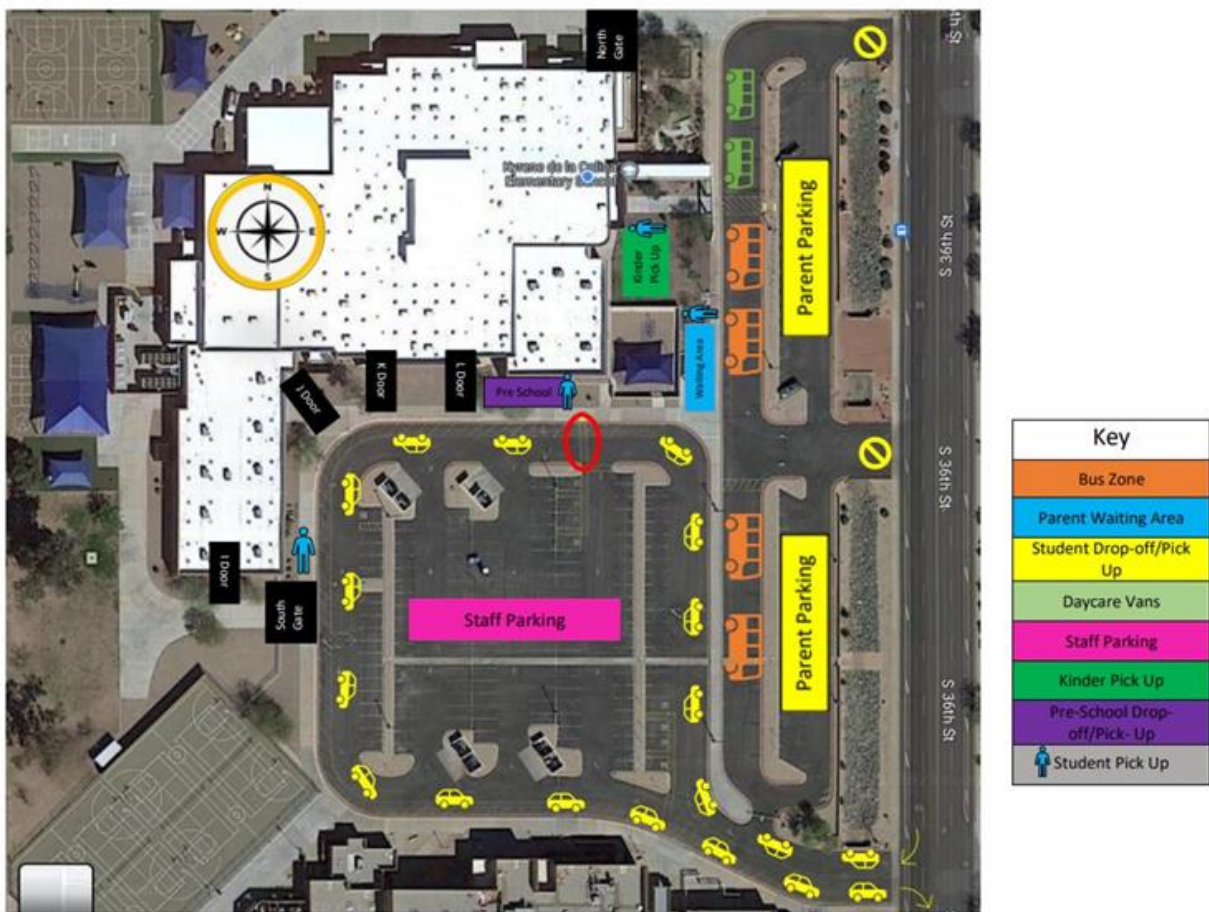
Parent Drive-Up- You may choose to drop your child off in the drive-up car lane. Please ensure you are waiting in line closest to the red curb and remaining in your vehicle until a staff member instructs you to release near the South Gate entrance. When exiting this parking lot **right turn only**.

Dismissal Procedures: Students will be exiting the building no earlier than 2:15PM. You may greet your child at the parent waiting area or in your car.

Parent Walk-Up- You may park and meet your child at the designated parent waiting area. Please wait in the drive-up line and utilize the large parking lot once able.

Parent Drive-Up- You may choose to pick up your child in the drive-up car lane. Please display your name plate in your passenger window at all times. Remain in your vehicle until a staff member instructs you to stop near the South Gate entrance. When exiting this parking lot **right turn only**.

Thank you for your support and flexibility as we strive to keep all children safe! If you have any suggestions, please let us know!





Important Dates:

August 9: Peter Piper Pizza PTO Family Dinner Night 4:00-8:00PM
August 20: WatchDOG Kickoff Event & PTO Community Meeting 5:30PM
August 23: Fall Pictures
September 4: Step it Up Kickoff
September 10-13: Scholastic Book Fair
September 10-13: Parent Teacher Conferences
September 30 - October 15: Fall break
October 16: First Day of Quarter 2
November 15: Harvest Festival
December 23 - January 6: Winter break
January 7: Start of Quarter 3

Curriculum Nights will be held August 14th and August 28th from 5-6:30. See below for the schedule:



August 14, 2024 - 3th - 5th:

5th Grade 5:00-5:30

4th Grade 5:30-6:00

3rd Grade 6:00-6:30

August 28, 2024 - K - 2nd:

2nd Grade 5:00-5:30

1st Grade 5:30-6:00

Kinder 6:00-6:30



Welcome Back Families,

Please take the time to review and read the information below pertaining to your student and medication policies here at school.

Medication

Health Office staff administer over-the-counter and prescription medication in the school setting in accordance with Governing Board policy (Policy 5-404).

The following is required:

- All medication must be brought to the Health Office and picked up from the Health Office by an adult. Students should not carry medications to and from school.
- Up to a 30-day supply will be accepted.
- A consent form for administering prescription and nonprescription medications must be completed and signed by a physician, nurse practitioner or physician's assistant for all medications administered at school, except for emergency administration pursuant to A.R.S. §15-157 (Epinephrine auto-injector) or A.R.S. § 15-158 (Inhalers) or A.R.S. § 15-341, subsection A, paragraph 43, (naloxone hydrochloride/any other opioid antagonist). Parent/Guardian signature is required for both prescription and non-prescription medication per the Kyrene Family Handbook 2024-2025, page 7.
- Sample prescription medication must be accompanied by a prescription. Only medications that are needed to treat an existing ailment will be stored in the Health Office.
- Expired medications will not be administered.
- The Arizona Department of Health Services will not allow preschool children to receive stock medications of any form.
- A consent form for administering prescription and nonprescription medications must be submitted for administration of non-prescription medications beyond a three- consecutive-day period to ensure medications are not masking the symptoms of a serious health condition.
- A student may carry and self-administer an inhaler or epinephrine device with proper labeling and written parental permission. Students should report to an adult or to the Health Office after use.
- School Health Offices DO NOT stock aspirin, ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin), Benadryl, Hydrocortisone cream /or ointment, antibiotic ointment, cough drops or calamine lotion.
- School Health Offices will stock acetaminophen and dispense with parent/guardian permission for temperature 101° F and above.
- Medications will not be routinely dispensed to students during the first and last hour of the school day to minimize the possibility of drug overdose.

Quick links:

[School Website](#)

[Colina PTO](#)

[Breakfast/Lunch Menu](#)

[Calendar](#)

[ParentVUE/StudentVUE](#)

[Bus Information](#)

[Kids Club](#)

Parent Reminders:

Important: Sign up for Text Messages

In the event of an emergency, text messages are the fastest and most effective way to communicate information to families. You must opt in to receive text communications! Text "Y" or "yes" to 67587 to begin receiving text messages from our school and the Kyrene School District.

Lunch Information

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Kyrene schools offer nutritious meals at a low cost. Families seeking reduced-price or free meals must [submit an application](#) for assistance or visit kyrene.org/foodservices for more information.



Kyrene uses an online system for managing school meal accounts. If you do not already have an account, please visit the payment portal below to register. Meal account balances can be checked at any time through [LinqConnect](#). Cash and checks made payable to Kyrene School District are accepted at school sites as well.

Additionally, Kyrene meal prices will remain the same as the 2023-2024 school year. Regular meal prices: Lunch-\$3.00; Breakfast-\$1.70

Lunch menus can be found [here](#).

Student Messages and Deliveries:

In an attempt to preserve instructional time, messages and deliveries for students will be held in the office and an email will be sent alerting the teacher that it is there. Teachers will send the student down during a break in instruction. **If you have a change in transportation for your child, please send a note ahead of time with your child or, for last minute changes, contact the Colina office *PRIOR* to 1:45 pm.**

Bus Information:

Kyrene is proud to provide transportation for students in an environment that is safe, courteous, and on time. Be sure to review the [Bus Rules](#) and expectations as well as our video reviewing seat belt usage during the bus ride.

Note: Even if your child rode the bus in the past, please check the online [transportation portal](#) to verify eligibility and bus stop locations!

As a reminder, kindergartners will not be released from the bus without a parent or guardian to pick them up.



Student Attendance

Regular attendance and punctual arrival at school are two habits that can positively impact student learning. Parents/guardians are urged to make every possible attempt to schedule doctor, dentist, and other appointments for students outside of the school day whenever possible. This will reinforce the importance of school and allow students to participate in all aspects of the school curriculum.

It is very important that the school be notified before 8:15 am, at the latest, if a child is going to be absent. Please call our 24-hour attendance line at (480) 541-2601 to report an absence. If the school has not been contacted by 8:15 our automated phone system will call all numbers on file to determine the reason for the absence. Absences will be excused for illness, medical or family emergencies, and appointments that cannot be scheduled after school hours. Please support your child by arriving to school on time every day.

Birthday Celebration Reminder

Colina School will be following the Kyrene School District guidelines on celebrating birthdays in school. Parents/guardians are not permitted to bring cupcakes, treats, cookies, balloons, or flowers to school. With prior approval of the classroom teacher, parents may share non-edible items such as pencils or stickers for a student's birthday. Each student has his/her name announced on their birthday as recognition of their special day!



Hello Coyote Pack! I am beyond excited to be your new school counselor. Colina holds a special place in my heart.

A little about me: I am entering my 7th year as a school counselor in the Kyrene District. Though most of my time has been with middle schoolers; I preceded my position as a school counselor with over 15 years working with children of all ages in community mental health. I have a passion to help each student and family feel they belong and are cared for. I have two Coyote pups of my own - one attends Colina and the other was previously a Colina Coyote and is now a Senior Lion at Mountain Pointe. I am married to a fellow Kyrene employee and together we love traveling and exploring new places - especially restaurants. (So if you know of any good ones let me in on it!) When I'm on my own, I enjoy cooking, baking, audiobooks, and crafting.

Being a parent of a school-aged kid and a teen lets you know I am in the midst of the ups and downs of raising kids so I understand most, if not all, of what you are going through! Please let me know any concerns you have about your own child if you think I can help in anyway. Even if I'm not quite the right person, I am a friendly face that will point you in the right direction.

Once a month, I will use this Counselor Corner to share helpful tips and info centered around the social and emotional well-being of this age group. I will also let you know community supports offered through Kyrene or associated organizations.

Here is an ongoing Google Page I will use to share info throughout the year as well. It will have links to ongoing and new information for you, including how to refer your child for counseling if needed and what my classroom lesson will be. Each month will center around a subject and fit the need of each grade level. **The August focus will be on who I am and what my role is for the students at Colina.**

[Mrs. Martin's Page](#)



If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year email me at smartin@kyrene.org or call 480-541-2736. I'll be sure to get back to you as soon as possible.

It's going to be a great year! I look forward to working with you all.

Mrs. Stephanie Martin

PICTURE DAY ...COMING SOON!

Kyrene de la Colina

Picture Day: August 23, 2024

Absentees: August 30, 2024

How to Dress: School Pics are a keepsake you'll treasure for years to come, so look and dress your best. Avoid highly reflective neon colors, and please use this flyer as a reminder to schedule haircuts so your student will be "camera ready" by picture day. For more information, and to view the current season background, visit us at: <https://www.schoolpicsonline.com>

What to Bring: Nothing but your smile! No money is needed on picture day!

Please Note: All students will be photographed for yearbook and school services.

About Us: Our School Pics Proof Program allows you to view several proofs of your child before you purchase

Ordering: Digital Proofs and ordering information will be available at: <https://www.schoolpicsonline.com> approximately 2 weeks after the second picture day. Your child's school will email access instructions once they are available for viewing and ordering.

If you have any questions, please email us at:
customerservice@schoolpicsaz.com





Colina Spirit Wear:

Colina has a Spirit Wear store on-line! This store is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year! With over 100 items to choose from, there is no doubt that you will find the perfect item for your student(s). The best part is that the items are shipped directly to your home! To visit the store, click [here](#).














Contact the PTO:

The PTO always loves to hear from our parents. Please e-mail any questions, concerns, comments, or ideas to us at: kyrenedelacolinapto@gmail.com. You can also find us on Facebook and Instagram!



2024-2025 COLINA PTO EVENT CALENDAR



 JULY	 AUGUST	 SEPTEMBER
07-18 WELCOME BACK BREAKFAST 07-19 KINDER ICE CREAM SOCIAL 07-22 MEET THE TEACHER 5PM - 6:30PM	08-09 FDN PETER PIPER PIZZA 08-20 PTO COMMUNITY MEETING AND WATCHDOG KICKOFF	09-04 STEP IT UP KICKOFF 09/10 - 09/13 BOOKFAIR AND PARENT TEACHER CONF ** FALL BREAK STARTS 09-28 FAMILY DINNER NIGHT - DATE TO BE DETERMINED
 OCTOBER	 NOVEMBER	 DECEMBER
 10-23 DAY OF AWESOMENESS FALL BREAK - 09/28 - 10/15 (KIDS RETURN ON THE 16TH)	11-15 HARVEST FESTIVAL FAMILY DINNER NIGHT - DATE TO BE DETERMINED	WINTER BREAK - 12/21 - 01/06 (KIDS RETURN ON THE 7TH) FAMILY HOLIDAY PARTY/ BINGO - DATE TO BE DETERMINED
 JANUARY	 FEBRUARY	 MARCH
WINTER BREAK ENDS 01/06 (KIDS RETURN ON THE 7TH) FAMILY DINNER NIGHT	FAMILY DANCE BOOK FAIR / PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE 2/5 - 2/7 FAMILY DINNER NIGHT - DATE TO BE DETERMINED	BOOK-A-THON READ ACROSS AMERICA SPRING BREAK 3/8 - 3/34 (KIDS RETURN ON 25TH)
 APRIL	 MAY	 JUNE
BIKE/WALK TO SCHOOL WATCHDOG EVENT FAMILY DINNER NIGHT - DATE TO BE DETERMINED	5/6 COMMUNITY MEETING 5/5 - 5/9 TEACHER APPRECIATION 5/23 PETER PIPER PIZZA	



Don't forget to register your Fry's card at www.fryscommunityrewards.com.
Our organization number is **VE181**.

This is an easy and FREE way to earn money for our PTO, which in turn funds great activities for our kids, supplies our library with books, and supports the learning goals Colina has for our children. Please connect your card TODAY! It's easy and it's FREE!

Contact Us:

Kyrene de la Colina
13612 S. 36th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85044

Phone: 480-541-2600
Fax: 480-541-2610
Attendance: 480-541-2601

School Hours: 7:25 am – 2:15 pm
Early Release Wednesdays: 12:15

Office Hours: 7:00 – 3:30 pm

A+ School of ExcellenceSM

