



August 2024

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## **A Message from Mrs. Anderson**

What a great start to a new school year! Thank you to everyone for your patience and continued support as we began our new start time for arrival and for our procedures for arrival and dismissal. To our new students and families, I extend a heartfelt welcome. We are thrilled to have you join our Mirada family and we look forward to getting to know you and supporting your child's educational journey.

Parents and guardians, your partnership is crucial to the success of our students. I invite you to stay involved in your child's education by attending Parent Connect Night, being a Watch D.O.G., parent-teacher conferences, joining our PTO, and volunteering your time and expertise whenever possible. Your support and collaboration are invaluable in creating a positive and enriching educational experience for our students.

School attendance and punctuality are crucial factors in ensuring the academic success and overall well-being of students. Regular attendance allows students to fully engage in learning, participate in classroom activities, and build strong relationships with teachers and peers. It also helps students develop important life skills such as time management, responsibility and discipline. By attending school regularly and arriving on time, students demonstrate respect for themselves, their peers and their teachers. They also maximize their learning opportunities and academic achievement.

Together, let us prioritize school attendance and punctuality to ensure that every student has the opportunity to reach their full potential and succeed academically.

In closing, I am honored to serve as the principal of Mirada Leadership Academy. I am confident that together, we will make this school year a memorable and successful one. Let us embrace the opportunities that lie ahead, celebrate our achievements, and support one another every step of the way.

Once again, welcome back to Mirada! I look forward to a year filled with growth, discovery and endless possibilities.

Kindly,  
Michelle Anderson  
Principal



Every Wednesday is an Early Release Day.  
Dismissal is at 12:15pm.

**Friday, August 16th is an Early Release Day** for  
Teacher Planning.  
Dismissal is at 12:15pm

## Upcoming Events

- August 7 Parent Connect Night for Kindergarten, Second and First Grades
  - Kindergarten @5pm
  - 2nd Grade @5:45pm
  - 1st Grade @6:30pm
- August 12 PTO and Principal Meet and Mingle Zzeeks 6-7pm
- August 13 Governing Board Meeting @District Office 6-8pm
- August 15 PTO Meeting 2:45 Media Center
  - WATCH D.O.G.S. Kick off 6-7pm MPR
- August 16 EARLY RELEASE @12:15pm
- August 23 Leo's Birthday Bash 6-7:30pm MPR
- August 26-Sep 1 Monarch WEEK Out at Culver's
- August 27 Governing Board Meeting @District Office 6-8pm
  
- September 9-13 Readathon Week
- September 10 Fall Picture Day
- September 11-13 Early Release for Parent Teacher Conferences
- Sept. 30-Oct. 15 No School (Fall Break/Work and Prof. Dev. Days)

[View Full Calendar](#)

Click Below for Important School Calendars

[District Calendar](#)

[August Calendar](#)

[PTO Calendar](#)

## New Drop Off Time

Please note that

**Drop Off begins at 7:10am.**

There is no supervision of students before the playground gates open. For the safety of your child, you must remain with your child until staff reports for duty.



## School Calendar

Please take a moment and note all of the holidays and vacations for this upcoming school year. Take into consideration the Intersession breaks when planning family vacations. Our students benefit from being in school because it provides a structured environment for learning, access to resources, and opportunities for social interaction. This environment supports academic achievement, emotional development, and social skills. We appreciate your efforts to get your kids here and on time!

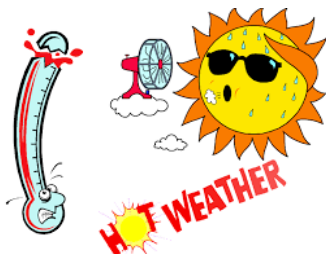
Click Here  
2024-25  
School  
Calendar

## Medications and Forms

Parents, if you have medications to drop off, please fill out Medication Consent Form and email it to our Health Assistant Victoria McNeillie at [VRMcNeillie@kyrene.org](mailto:VRMcNeillie@kyrene.org) or have your doctor office fax it to 480-541-4210.

All prescribed and over the counter medications must be unexpired and in original containers. Parents must bring in the medication. Students are not allowed to drop off medications.

Medication Consent Form



We will be experiencing high temperatures for the beginning of the school year, so let's work together to keep our students safe and cool!

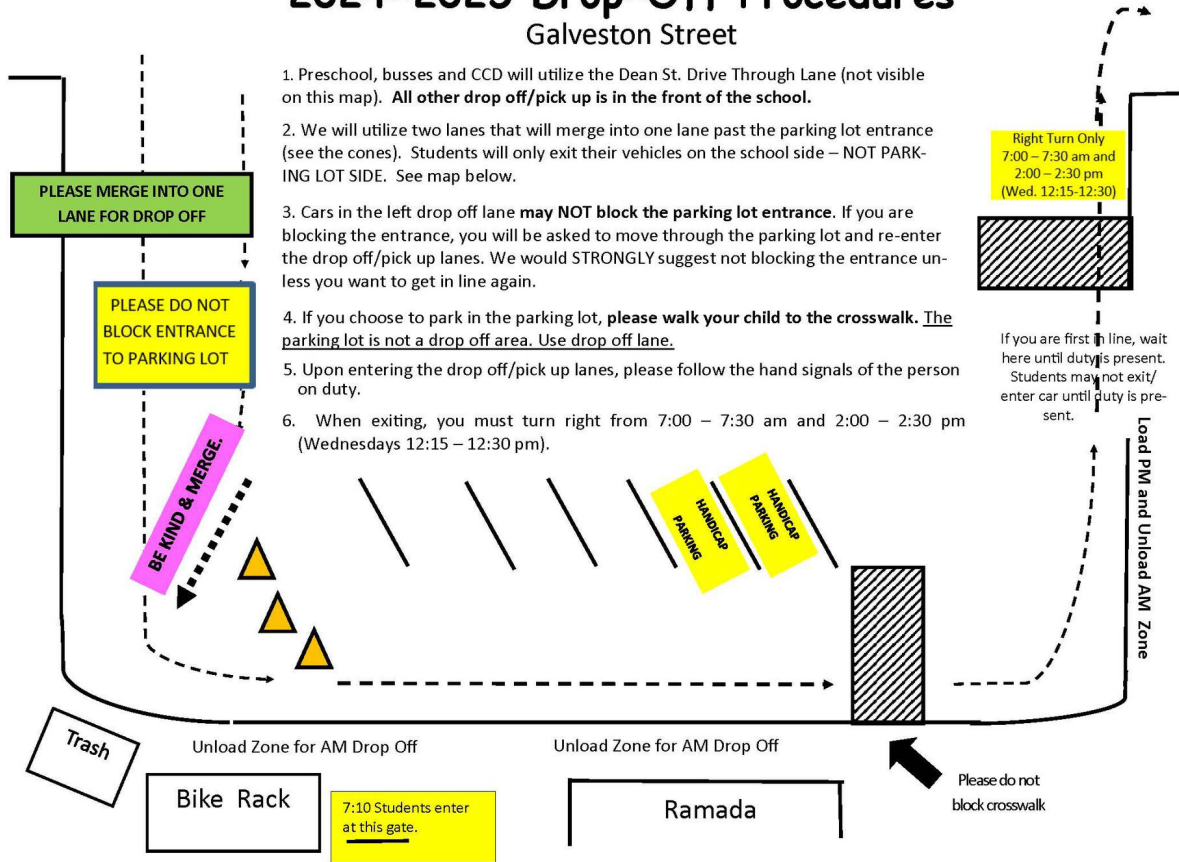
**Hydrate:** Please send your student with a water bottle and encourage them to drink regularly both at home and at school. We have water bottle fillers in the hallways.

**Dress for the Heat:** Have your student wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing, and bring a hat to wear at recess.

**Limit Exposure:** Outdoor recess times are limited whenever there is a heat warning and many of our play areas are shaded.

# 2024-2025 Drop-Off Procedures

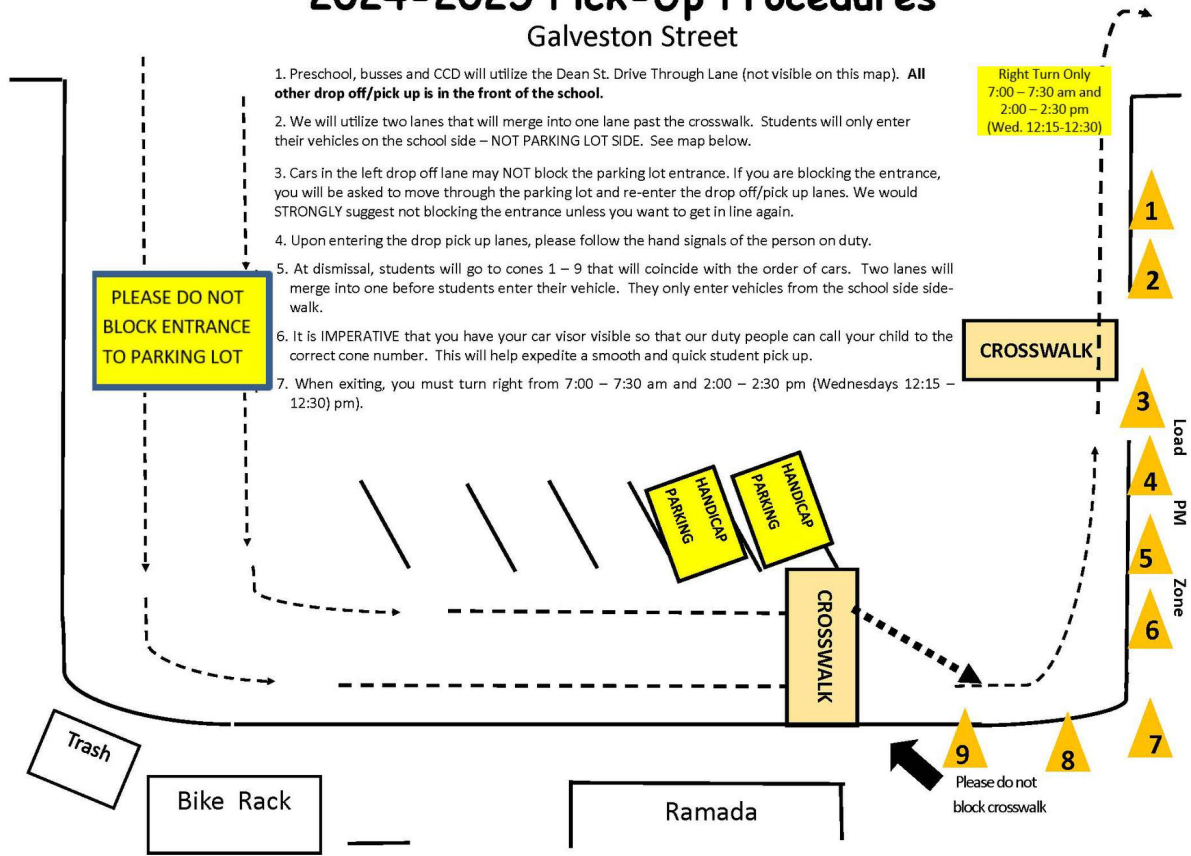
## Galveston Street



1. Preschool, busses and CCD will utilize the Dean St. Drive Through Lane (not visible on this map). **All other drop off/pick up is in the front of the school.**
2. We will utilize two lanes that will merge into one lane past the parking lot entrance (see the cones). Students will only exit their vehicles on the school side – NOT PARKING LOT SIDE. See map below.
3. Cars in the left drop off lane **may NOT block the parking lot entrance**. If you are blocking the entrance, you will be asked to move through the parking lot and re-enter the drop off/pick up lanes. We would **STRONGLY** suggest not blocking the entrance unless you want to get in line again.
4. If you choose to park in the parking lot, **please walk your child to the crosswalk. The parking lot is not a drop off area. Use drop off lane.**
5. Upon entering the drop off/pick up lanes, please follow the hand signals of the person on duty.
6. When exiting, you must turn right from 7:00 – 7:30 am and 2:00 – 2:30 pm (Wednesdays 12:15 – 12:30 pm).

If you are first in line, wait here until duty is present. Students may not exit/enter car until duty is present.

## 2024-2025 Pick-Up Procedures Galveston Street



- Please wait for the crossing guard to signal that it is safe for you to cross before entering the street.
- No left turn at the exit will help keep traffic moving so our loop can empty quickly. We appreciate your extra effort to make the loop safe and efficient.

Parents, please remember to bring your picture ID when you come to school to volunteer or sign your child out of the office early.





# PTO CORNER

## WELCOME BACK!!!

Welcome back Monarchs, we've made it through the first week of school! We hope your kiddos and families are slowly getting back into the swing of things. Please be on the lookout for our PTO Newsletter coming out mid-month. If you haven't signed up for our mailing list please do so at the following link:

[www.miradapto.org/newsletter](http://www.miradapto.org/newsletter)

This year has already been jam packed awesome Monarch Community events. Thank you all for your support in making each one of them fun, safe, and special for our kiddos. .

## UPCOMING EVENTS!!!

### JULY

- 30 - Monarch Night Out -- Jeremiah's Italian Ice (ALL DAY)
- 31 - Parent Connect Night -- PreK - 4:30pm // 3rd - 5:00pm  
5th - 5:45pm // 4th - 6:30pm

### AUGUST

- 7 - Parent Connect Night -- Kinder - 5:00pm // 2nd - 5:45pm  
1st - 6:30pm
- 12 - PTO mix-n-mingle // Zesty Zeeks 6-7pm
- 15 - FIRST PTO Meeting 2:45pm in Library  
(please RSVP for complimentary childcare [hello@miradapto.org](mailto:hello@miradapto.org))
- 23 - Leo's Birthday Party Social 6-7:30pm in MPR
- 26 - Sept 1st - Monarch WEEK out! Culvers

## PTO & PRINCIPAL MIX-N-MINGLE

Mark your calendars for our PTO and Principal mix-n-mingle on August 12th at Zeeeks Pizza on McClintock and Warner. This is a great way to get to know Mrs Anderson, the current members of the PTO, and to learn about ways and opportunities you can get involved here at Mirada. We hope to see you there!!!

**THANK YOU MONARCH FAMILIES!**





## Parent Reminders

### Opt in for text communication

**IMPORTANT:** 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 both your child’s school and the Kyrene School District.

### \*ParentVUE Acknowledgements\*

We request that families confirm the annual acknowledgements by August 11th. You will be able to log in on Monday, July 22nd at 12pm to update or acknowledge your Emergency Contact/Address Verification Form, Kyrene Family Handbook, Technology User Form, Social Emotional Survey (3-5) and Stay Connected.

### Birthday Celebrations

No celebrations of individual student birthdays are to be held in classrooms, on the school campus. We understand that parents and friends like to celebrate various occasions. However, cakes, cookies, cupcakes, candy, flowers, balloons, etc. cause many distractions and cannot be allowed on campus or on the bus. These items are disruptive in the classroom and are a safety concern on the bus. If they are delivered they will be kept in the office for parents/guardians to pick up. This policy helps to ensure that instructional time is protected and that all students are treated equally. **Party invitations may not be distributed at school.**

### Need to Report an Absence?

Call our 24 Hour Attendance Line at 480-541-4201 to report a student absence.



Please leave a message on the attendance line indicating the student's name, grade, date(s) and reason for absence. When your student is absent and we have not received notification, we will contact the parents. If we do not receive a return phone call, the student will be marked truant. **\*\*Note\*\*** Parents **MUST** call the attendance line within 24 hours of an absence, even if you spoke to the Health Office or communicated to the Teacher.

### Tardy

If your child is tardy, you must park in the parking lot and walk your child to the office. Sign them in and provide the reason why they are tardy. A tardy is defined as arriving at school or class **after the scheduled start time**. Students should be in their seats and ready to learn when the bell rings at the scheduled start time. **Students are considered tardy if they are not in their seats at the scheduled start time. Mirada students need to arrive with enough time to make it to their classroom by 7:30am.** Students who are tardy must enter through the school's front office and receive a Tardy pass.

### Students and Electronic Devices

Many parents choose to have their child carry a cellular telephone or other electronic devices (such as an Apple watch or Fitbit) as a means of before and/or after school communication and for safety purposes. Electronic devices can be disruptive in an educational environment, but may also be used to enhance instruction. If parents have decided that it's necessary for a child to carry a cell phone or electronic device, parents and students must be aware of the following: Kyrene School District Policy 3-401 states that the District does not assume responsibility for the loss of, or damage to, personal property. If your child has a cell phone on campus or on the bus and it is damaged or stolen, we will not be able to utilize administrative time to investigate the incident, nor will the District be able to take any financial responsibility for the cell phone or cell phone charges. Cellular phones and other electronic devices must be turned off and kept in backpacks at all times on campus. If these rules are not followed, the electronic devices may be confiscated and kept in the front office for pick up after school. Please assist us in keeping our learning environment free from distractions. When it is necessary for a student to contact you during the day, we have telephones available in classrooms and in the office. If it is necessary for you to get an important message to your child during the school day, you may contact the school office and our staff will relay the message to your child.



### Parent Acknowledgements due by August 11th

Families, **Grades K-8** All families are required to submit their agreement that they will review the handbook and technology agreement forms with their child and follow expectations.

Family Handbook (all families)

Technology User Agreement (all families)

Stay Connected - Text Messaging Permission (all families)

Families and specific grades: All families who have children in these grades are provided their children's grade level survey items and then required to submit their position on their child's participation. Depending on the age of the students, families will see a different set of items.

School Quality Survey (Grades 3-8 only)

Social Emotional Survey (Grades 3-8 only)

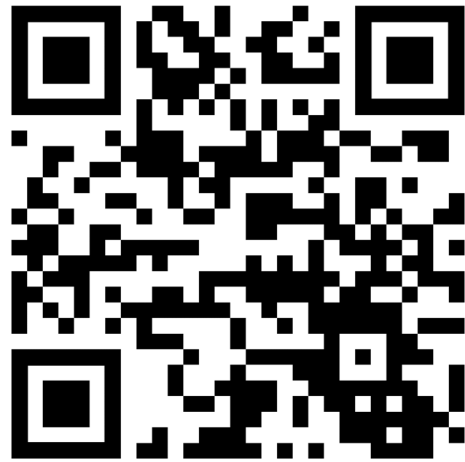
Leader in Me Survey (Grades 3-8 and only PUE, MIR, CER)

**Currently 80% of our families have completed their submissions! We are striving for 100% completion rate so please log on to your ParentVue account to review these acknowledgements.**





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# The Leader in Me™

great happens here

Mirada Leadership Academy is a Leader in Me School. We focus and practice the 8 Habits of a Happy Kid. The beginning of the year is spent with a quick review of each habit so the children will begin practicing all habits ubiquitously throughout their learning day as well as when they leave our campus. Each month is dedicated to diving deeper into understanding each of the 8 habits.

Habit 1: Be proactive - we teach the children they are to "be in charge of me".

Habit 2: Begin with the end in mind - have a plan and set goals "A goal without a plan is just a wish".

Habit 3: Put first things first - work first, and then you get to play.

Habit 4: Think win-win - "I win, you win, we all win".

Habit 5: Seek first to understand, then to be understood - listen before you speak

Habit 6: Synergize - working together is better than working alone

Habit 7: Sharpen the saw - "Balance feels best"

Habit 8: Find your twitter.com/theleaderinme voice, inspire others' to find theirs - make a positive difference in your world.

When children live these habits at school and at home they are beginning to make the paradigm shift for success. We teach children that everyone can be a leader, not just a few. Everyone has genius, not just a few are gifted. The change must start with them, not rely on someone else to make the change. We empower our students to lead their own learning by setting goals and following the steps to achieve their goals, we do not direct and control their learning. We work with our families to develop the whole person, not just focusing on academics.

What is Leader In Me? <https://youtu.be/07cL9wYLLaQ>

## Links

 TheLeaderinMe.org [theleaderinme.org](http://theleaderinme.org)

 Facebook [facebook.com/TheLeaderinMe](https://facebook.com/TheLeaderinMe)

 Twitter [twitter.com/theleaderinme](https://twitter.com/theleaderinme)

YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/@LeaderinMeChannel>



- Students may bring large bills to pay for their meal account - please remember no change is provided back to the student, the entire amount is applied to the student's account.
- If a student does not have enough funds on their account, after two (2) meals (breakfast or lunch) they are provided an alternate meal as per District policy. The student may still get side options and salad bar along with their milk.
- Please remember that dietary restrictions must be accompanied by a Dr's note and will be accommodated to the best of our ability. SFE is unable to honor preferences or requests.
- You may check your student's lunch balance by visiting [lingconnect](#). Linq Connect is our self-service lunch account portal, which makes it possible for Kyrene families to easily manage their student(s) lunch account. **Families may check meal balances, transfer funds, apply for free or reduced-priced meals or create spending limits for their students by visiting [lingconnect](#).** For any additional questions or assistance with your linqconnect account please call 1-844-467-4700 and follow the prompts. **Payments are applied to your student's meal account at 6:50am, 9:35am, 11:05am, 12:05pm and 11:35pm daily to update the meal account balance.**
- Kyrene and SFE want to assure you that when your child chooses to enjoy ala carte snacks from their cafeteria, they are selecting options that meet the strict nutritional standards outlined by the USDA's Smart Snack guidelines. These guidelines prioritize offering snacks that are lower in fat, sugar, and sodium, while also providing essential nutrients to support your child's overall health and well-being. The guidelines require that drinks be either unflavored water or 100% juice, and that snacks contain at least 50% whole grain or list the first ingredient as a fruit, vegetable, dairy food, or protein food.

It's also important to note that while some snack packaging may appear similar to those found in stores outside of school, each product has been carefully reformulated to comply with federal Smart Snack guidelines. Our foodservice management company, SFE, works diligently to ensure that all snacks offered to students are both delicious and nutritious, meeting or exceeding federal standards.

We encourage you to discuss with your child the importance of making mindful choices when it comes to snacking. By reinforcing healthy eating habits both at home and at school, we can

collectively support our children in making nutritious choices that contribute to their overall growth and development. If you would like more resources and information about Smart Snack requirements, including activities that can be done at home, we recommend checking out the USDA's website [here](#).

Thank you for partnering with us in promoting a culture of health and wellness for our students. If you have any questions or concerns about the smart snack options available in your child's cafeteria, please don't hesitate to reach out to the foodservice office at 480-541-1660.

Payment & Balance Info Links

Click here for Mirada Menus

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**QUESTIONS**  
Contact:  
Mariah Bernal  
480-541-1368  
[kbs@kyrene.org](mailto:kbs@kyrene.org)

**LEARN MORE:**  
[kyrene.org/foodservices](http://kyrene.org/foodservices)

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**PREGUNTAS?**  
Llamar:  
Mariah Bernal  
480-541-1368  
[kbs@kyrene.org](mailto:kbs@kyrene.org)

**APRENDE MÁS:**  
[kyrene.org/foodservices](http://kyrene.org/foodservices)  
Traduce la página con el menú desplegable en la parte superior de la pantalla.

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## Contact Us

**Kyrene de la Mirada  
Leadership Academy**  
5500 W. Galveston Street  
Chandler, AZ 85226

**School Hours:** 7:30 am - 2:15 pm<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
*Early Release Wed: 12:15 pm*

**Office Hours:** 7:00 am - 3:30 pm<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
*Wednesday: 7:00 am - 1:30 pm*

**Front Office:** 480-541-4200  
**Fax Number:** 480-541-4210  
**Attendance:** 480-541-4201  
**Health Office:** 480-541-4220  
**Cafeteria:** 480-541-4226  
**Kids Club:** 480-541-4230

## Quicklinks

[Food Services and Menu](#)

[ParentVUE](#)

[StudentVUE](#)

[Technology Assistance](#)

[Family Handbook](#)

A+ School of Excellence™

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