



October 2024

***Our Pack Has Your Back***



Dear Colina Families,

October is a one of my favorite months for so many reasons---fall(ish) weather, pumpkin spice lattes, Halloween costumes and movies, as well as, fall break fun! October is also National Principal Month. I am so honored to serve our students, staff and community and feel blessed to work alongside you as your school Principal--- our pack has your back! I hope your kick-off to October is a great start and you are enjoying the extra time with your children.

October is also a very short month for us. Students will return from fall break on Wednesday, October 16th for an early release day. We will be extending our Step It Up Fundraiser through October 16th to help us reach the last couple thousand dollars to hit our goal of \$30,000.00. We will be having our Day of Awesomeness on October 23rd to celebrate our success of Step It Up! Also, on the 23rd we are having a family dinner night at ZEEKS Pizza all day and night. Don't miss out on the fall fun at Colina!

We are continuing to focus on attendance in Kyrene and have been committed to working with families. We will be sending letters through email and uploaded into ParentVUE when your child has missed 4, 8 and 13 days. If your child has missed 18 days or more we will reach out with supportive measures. These letters serve as an awareness of absences throughout the year. Remember, every absence matters. Our goal is to support you and keep our Kyrene Promise that every student is honored, valued, and feels a strong sense of purpose. We appreciate your partnership!

We look forward to continuing to welcome our Watch DOGS on campus and celebrate the great things happening at Colina! Have a great fall break!

Academically yours,

Emily Pieper, Kyrene de la Colina  
Proud Principal



## Important Dates:

October 23: Zzeeks Family Dinner Night  
October 23: Day of Awesomeness!  
November 15: Harvest Festival  
November 26: Chipotle Family Dinner Night  
December 23 - January 6: Winter break  
January 5: Zzeeks Family Dinner Night  
January 7: Start of Quarter 3  
February 20: DQ Family Dinner Night  
May 13: In and Out Family Dinner Night  
May 21: Peter Piper Pizza

Our Step It Up! fundraiser has been a big success so far.

We have extended the donation deadline to October 16, 2024.

We will celebrate the success with our Day of Awesomeness on October 23, 2024.



Our 3rd grade students have been studying about animals and how to classify them for our reading Unit.

To end the unit and to finish Quarter 1, 3rd grade teachers transformed their classrooms into the Jungle!

Students became Zoologists and completed fun animal activities and games throughout the day to celebrate the hard work 3rd graders have completed this quarter.

**WILD**  
about  
**3rd Grade**



## Proud Principal Lunches with Mrs. Pieper

At the end of each quarter students who have received a Cool Coyote slip are randomly drawn to have lunch with Mrs. Pieper!

Students are treated to pizza, Capri-Suns, and cookies.

Students receive Cool Coyote slips for showing one or all of the 4Bs:  
Be Respectful, Be responsible, Be Safe, and Be Kind.





## Quick links:

[School Website](#)

[Colina PTO](#)

[Breakfast/Lunch Menu](#)

## 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

[Calendar](#)

[ParentVUE/StudentVUE](#)

[Bus Information](#)

[Kids Club](#)

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](https://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!







Watch D.O.G.S. is an innovative, father-involvement, educational initiative of the National Center for Fathering. Their goals are to provide positive male role models for students, demonstrating by their presence that education is important and to provide an extra *set of eyes and ears* to enhance school security and reduce bullying. It's an amazing program and students are so excited when WatchDOGS are on campus!

If you're interested in being a WatchDOG, please use the following link to sign up:

<https://calendly.com/colinawatchdogs>

As a reminder, volunteers who are not the parent or guardian will need to go through a fingerprint clearance process prior to volunteering. Please contact the Colina office for more information.



Hello again!

September was wonderful! I was able to have more conversations and class discussions about **Being a Good Friend** for our K-2 students. I was moved to speak to our older students (3rd-5th) about how **Our Words Matter** and being careful with the way we choose to speak to one another. Your student may have come home with a wrinkled heart (figuratively!). Please ask them about this lesson and the book, *Chrysanthemum* by Kevin Henkes, we listened to. This may lead to a good heart-to-heart about being kind to one another as much as possible.

Next quarter I will continue to go into classrooms, meet with students individually, and will be starting a few SEL focused small groups.. Our schoolwide classroom lesson subject will be **1.2.3.....Peace Begins With Me**. My lessons will be focused on tips for conflict resolution. It will follow the concept of: *Calm Yourself, Listen to Understand, then Problem Solve Together*. This is language we will continue to use throughout their time at Colina so feel free to utilize it at home as well. Students will be role-playing, completing discussions and participating in activities to help them understand how to resolve conflicts with peers in a healthy and effective way.

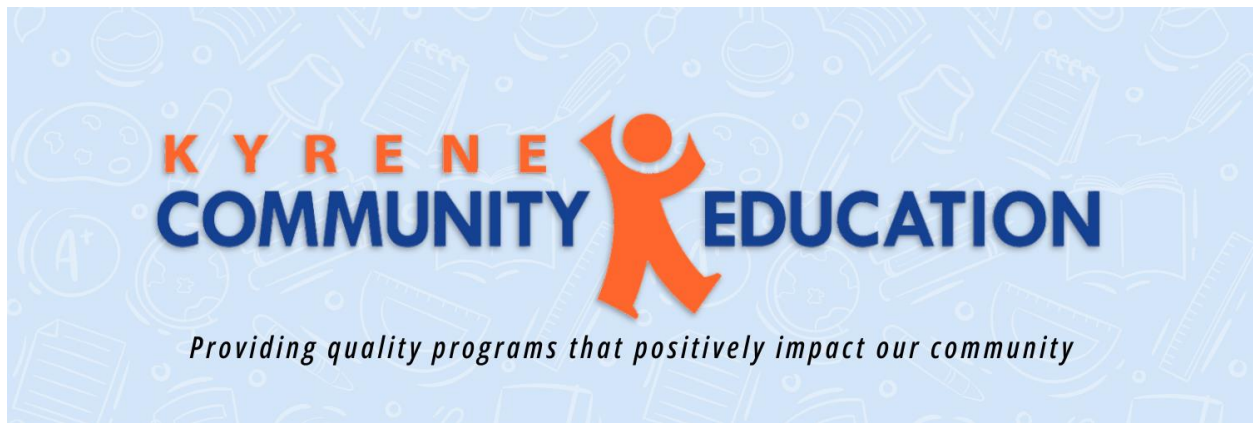
If you would like to consider your child for individual time with me or have questions about our small groups please reach out to [smartin@kyrene.org](mailto:smartin@kyrene.org) or leave me a message at 480-541-2736. I will return calls and email upon our return October 16th. I will also continue to add information to my page: [Mrs. Martins Page](#)

More to come! Have a wonderful break. Make memories!



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

Mrs. Stephanie Martin





2024-25 Non-School Days		Kids Club	Preschool	Adventure Tours	Registration Deadline by noon
		Location			
Sept 30 - Oct 14	Fall Break	Esperanza	Mirada	Mirada	Sept 26
Oct 7 - 11	Fall Break			Mirada	
Nov 11	Veterans Day	Esperanza			Nov 7
Dec 23 - Jan 6 No camp Dec 25 or Jan 1, Camp closes 3pm Dec 24	Winter Break		Manitas	Manitas	Dec 19
Jan 20	Martin Luther King Day	Esperanza			Jan 16
Feb 17	Presidents' Day	Esperanza			Feb 14
March 10 -24	Spring Break	Esperanza	Manitas	Manitas	March 7
March 17 - 21				Manitas	

**Program Hours: Preschool and Kids Club-7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. \***

\*December 24<sup>th</sup> Camp will close at 3:00 p.m.

**Adventure Tours 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Morning and Afternoon snacks provided for Kids Club and Preschool only.

Please remember to send your child(ren) with a non-perishable lunch to program.

**Preschool (3-5 year olds) - \$64.45/day/child**

**Kids Club (K-6<sup>th</sup> graders) - \$54.88/day/child**

**Adventure Tours (4<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade) - \$77.77/day/child**

*Pricing & Program availability are subject to change*

#### Information about Non-School Days

- Registration:** Registration must be completed online at [www.kyrene.org/CommunityEd](http://www.kyrene.org/CommunityEd) (click log in/register button). Registrations are only complete once Non-Schools Day requests are approved and payment is received.
- Payment:** Acceptable forms of payment include Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, EFT- Electronic Fund Transfer.
- Cancellations:** In the event that a program is cancelled due to low enrollment, families will be notified at least **five** business days before the program start date and will receive a full refund in the amount paid per cancelled date per child enrolled. If a family needs to cancel the registration, full refunds are issued for cancellations received **six business** days prior to the start of program.  
Full refunds minus \$10 are issued for cancellations made within five days of the program start date (Refunds are on a per child/per day basis). Refunds are not issued after the start date of each program. Teacher days are considered part of Fall & Spring Break.

#### Program Locations

Kyrene de la Esperanza | 14841 S. 41<sup>st</sup> Pl., Phoenix, AZ, 85044  
Kyrene de la Mirada | 5500 W. Galveston St., Chandler, AZ 85226  
Kyrene de las Manitas | 1201 W. Courtney Ln., Tempe, AZ 85284



National Custodian Day is celebrated on October 2, 2024.

It's a day to recognize the work of custodians who keep schools, workplaces, and public spaces clean and safe.

Our PTO recognized Paul H with a gift basket for all that he does for Colina.

Mr. Paul always has a great attitude while helping whenever we need assistance. He is always a team player, you might even see Mr. Paul at our crosswalk.

We can't thank Mr. Paul enough for all that he has done at Colina for the last 32 years!

#### **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](mailto:kyrenedelacolinapto@gmail.com). You can also find us on Facebook and Instagram!



# 2024-2025 COLINA PTO EVENT CALENDAR



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





**COLINA**  
**Hygiene & Food Drive**

**Help Colina students  
be successful for school by  
donating any of the following:**

- can goods
- boxed goods
- non-perishable snacks
- gently used kids' clothing and shoes
- bandaids
- tooth paste & tooth brushes
- Deodorant

100% of the donated items will go right back to Colina students. Our focus is to support specific Colina students whose families may be struggling due to financial hardship.

**OUR PACK HAS EACHOTHER'S BACK!**

Questions?  
Contact:  
Stephanie Martin  
Colina School Counselor  
SMartin@kyrene.org



Don't forget to register your Fry's card at [www.fryscommunityrewards.com](http://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

