



December 13, 2024

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## Message from the Principal

Hello KTA Families and Friends:

Thank you for your continued support and engagement with our school and community. We have had another fantastic week and next week, the last before break, brings more excitement and fun activities!!

Congrats go out to two of our amazing staff who recently applied for and received financial grants to support their classrooms and your students. **Mrs. Ang received a WISHES FOR TEACHERS** grant to support books and other resources for her classroom from the Fiesta Bowl Charities for \$2500 and Mrs. Logvin received a **KYRENE FOUNDATION GRANT** for \$1000 to support expanded opportunities for science lab materials to give students in grades 7 and 8 enriched hands on laboratory experiences! Thanks to them for making that extra effort to apply for these financial supports. Shout Out to Ms. Lauren Scott and Mrs. Kendra Stenberg for applying for grants as well to support our band and art programs. These efforts take extra time and work!

Are you looking for ways to support KTA and at the same time, get a **TAX CREDIT** for your tax filing in 2025? **YOU CAN MAKE A DIRECT CONTRIBUTION** to our school (either \$250 or \$400) and then, on your taxes in April 2025 you get a dollar-for-dollar credit. **SO YOU WIN and KTA WINS!!** Check out the info in this newsletter for the link and you can also call our office for more info 480-541-5400. You can make the contribution online or bring in a check to our school. Many ways to help and support and **YOU** get a direct credit for your Arizona taxes!

Our **SPELLING BEE** was a huge success this week! Check out the pictures of winners in this newsletter. We held two bees- one for grades 4-5 and one for grades 6-7-8. **Thank you to Mrs. Rodden for organizing the events along with Mrs. Thwaites and Mrs. Miranda.** We will send two winners to the Kyrene District Bee in January. Congrats to all spellers!

This week, our **Boys Basketball team** played two games and had their first playoff game of this season. While they did not win, they improved significantly each game. Way to go team and way to go **Coach Shepherd and Assistant Coach Jack Woolf.**

This week was also our 10th Annual Day of Code!! Thanks to Mrs. Woolf who has been the chief organizer for all 10 years of this fun event. Every student at KTA spent time learning and coding today! These efforts align with our fantastic STEM LAB and our STEM and CODING electives for middle school. We are a proud STEM FOCUS SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE and we love our Day of Code! Thanks to Mrs. Abel and Mrs. Watabe as our STEM program leads!!

NEXT WEEK we are looking forward to FRIENDS and FAMILY DAY on WED Dec 18, with an assembly, music performance and fun activities for our students and their special family members and guests. We ask that you review the info in this newsletter and register so that we are able to plan for supplies and logistics. We will have a fun UGLY SWEATER DAY on Thursday Dec 19 and then PAJAMA DAY on Friday Dec 20, the day before break.

Thank you for all your support and collaboration.

Marianne L. Lescher, Ph.D.

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*Dear families, As we have shared in previous newsletters, we have been sending attendance letters when your child reaches 4, 8, and 13 absences. The purpose of this is to be proactive and keep you informed, so your children stay below 19 absences, which the state identifies as excessive. We understand that children get sick and family circumstances require your children to be absent from school. The portion of the letter that explains Arizona attendance law is required, but please know that our goal is always to support you and partner with you. Please reach out to our office staff if you have any questions.*

Marianne L. Lescher, Ph.D.  
Principal, Kyrene Traditional Academy

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## STUDENT COUNCIL FUNDRAISER

Students from Student Council will be selling Candy Grams both before school on the Primary Playground and during Lunch.

December 16, 17, & 18

Students will be able to purchase a Candy Gram for \$1.

The student that they chose to receive a the Candy Gram will receive their Candy Gram on Thursday & Friday December 19 & 20.

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## SAVE THE DATE: Friends and Family Day

KTA Friends and Family Day is on Wednesday, December 18th from 7:45-9:45am. Please register below so we are able to plan accordingly. All guests will enter through our Garden Gate that morning, and stop at our registration booth.

[RSVP](#)



### Spelling Bee

Congratulations to the following students for winning this year's KTA Spelling Bee.

#### 4/5th grade bee winners

1st: Robyn Heredia

2nd: Kayla Armsterd

3rd: Ryder Feely

#### 6th/7th/8th grade bee winners

1st: Jezra Patriarca

2nd: Ashraf Ali Mir

3rd: Emma Holowinski



First place winners will advance to the district spelling bee. Good Luck!!!!



Quarter 3 Sports Registration open 12/2-12/20  
Grades 6-8      Fee to participate- \$150

KTA -Girls Basketball (Cut)  
Boys Flag Football (Cut) -  
Cheer (Cut)

Tryout at Pueblo Middle School - Girls Softball (Cut) - Boys Soccer (Cut)

Deadline to register is December 20<sup>th</sup>.  
All Athlete's must have a sports physical  
Apply for Financial Aid with the QR code provided!



NO SCHOOL  
December 23 - 31  
January 1 - 6  
School Resumes: January 7

Happy Holidays!!!!



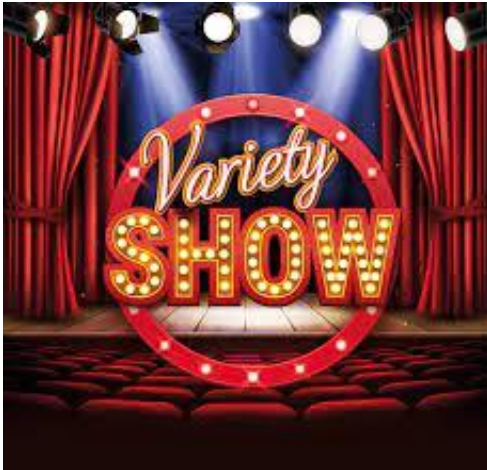
ENROLLMENT FOR 2025/26 BEGINS JANUARY 14

It's that time of year. Do you have a kindergarten age student who will be starting school next year. Students must be 5 prior to September 1.

Join us for a tour to learn more about our school.  
Scheduled tours:

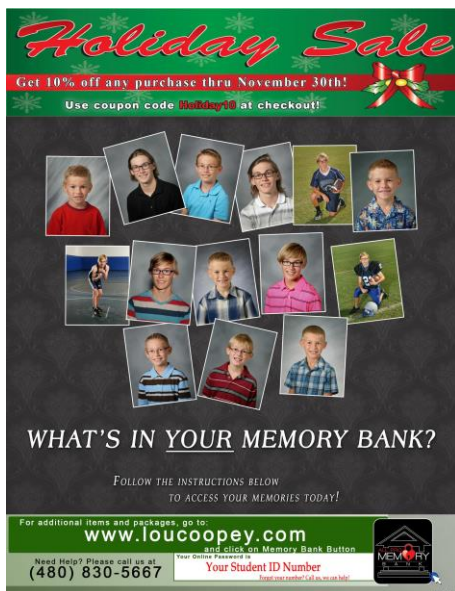
- Thursday, January 16 @ 9:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, January 21 @ 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, February 6 @ 9:00 a.m.
- Thursday, February 20 @ 1:00 p.m.
- Monday, March 3 @ 9:00 a.m.





**It's Coming! The 2025 KTA Variety Show!!**  
**Starring....maybe you!**

Our annual Variety Show is a fun night of talent, food and fun! This year's date is Wednesday, April 16. We are looking for student acts for the show: music, magic, gymnastics, cheer, skits, dance—we've even had a yo-yo demonstration! Audition information is coming to you in January! Stay tuned...



### Lou Coopey Pictures

All Pro School Pictures would like to share our **New** convenient service for your families...**The Memory Bank!** Please see the attached flier. We have created Memory Banks for each student based on the student ID number. We are offering a limited time offer of **10% off** through next Friday November 30th so the orders will be completed in time for the Holidays!



For more information about the hoop shoot visit:  
<https://www.elks.org/hoopshoot/about.cfm>

### **FREE HOOP SHOOT**

The Chandler Elks #2429 is hosting a free hoop shoot for girls and boys ages 8-13. (Your age group is determined by your age on April 1, 2025.)

Date: January 11  
Hoop Shoot Location: Chandler Boys & Girls Club  
300 E. Chandler Blvd, Chandler AZ 85224

Time: Age 8-9 @ 9:00 a.m. (Register 45 min prior)  
Age 10-11 @ 10:00 a.m. (Register 45 min prior)  
Age 12-13 @ 11:00 a.m. (Register 45 min prior)  
Contact: Sandy Theobald @ 480-628-5168  
[stheob@kyrene.org](mailto:stheob@kyrene.org)

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[View Full Calendar](#)

## Upcoming Events

### DECEMBER EVENTS

December 14	Kyrene Play Day @ Aprende
December 18	Spirit Day: Dress Your Best Day
December 18	Friends & Family Day
December 19	Spirit Day: Ugly Sweater Day
December 20	Spirit Day: PJ Day
December 23 - 31	Winter Break - No School

### JANUARY EVENTS

January 1 - 6	Winter Break - No School
January 7	School Resumes
January 11	Free Hoop Shoot
January 13	PTO Meeting @ 5:30 p.m.
January 14	Enrollment Begins for 25/26 School Year
January 15	KTA Showcase Event @ 5:30 p.m. (More information coming soon.)
January 16	Tour @ 9:00 a.m.
January 20	No School: Martin Luther King
January 21	Tour @ 1:00 p.m.
January 23	MS - \$1 Free Dress
January 28	Cafe Rio Restaurant Night





Saturday, December 14, 2024

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Kyrene Aprende Middle School**

777 N. Desert Breeze Blvd., Chandler, AZ 85226

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

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**6-8 English Language Arts Curriculum  
Resources Feedback Form**



Please scan the QR code to access the feedback form after reviewing the curriculum resources from all vendors.

**6-8 English Language Arts Curriculum Adoption Review**

The Kyrene School Board approved a 60-day review of middle school 6-8 grade English language arts (ELA) curriculum resources. As part of the public review process, the curriculum materials and digital resources from the selected vendors will be available at our middle school campuses and the Kyrene District Office throughout the review process.

The on-site curriculum materials review will be available from November 20, 2024 - February 24, 2025.

Parents and community members may visit a Kyrene middle school to review materials in person. Please bring a photo ID and sign in at the front office to review on-site materials. School staff will direct you to the location of the onsite materials. Digital curriculum materials are available online using the links and login information in the table below. There are also video vendor presentations available to review.

*You may access the [6-8 English Language Arts Curriculum review document](#) to assist you when reviewing each program.*

To provide feedback on the MS ELA Curriculum resources, complete the [6-8 ELA 60-day Review Survey](#)

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# Raising A Reader

## Free Early Literacy Workshops For Your Family

Tuesdays 4:30-5:30  
January 14 - March 5, 2025

Kyrene District Office  
8700 South Kyrene Road  
Tempe, AZ 85284



Contact Karla to sign up!  
(602) 384-0443  
kcarmona@swhd.org



Raising A Reader is a national program designed to educate parents and caregivers about the importance of early literacy skills and how they can help build these skills in their young children to help them enter school ready to learn.

Parents attend eight weekly early literacy workshops with their children 0-5 years-old. Families who participate in the program receive 12 high-quality children's books to build their home libraries and are connected to local resources!

Southwest Human Development coordinates Raising A Reader through schools, community centers, libraries, apartment communities, and other convenient locations. All interested parents and caregivers are encouraged to learn more and sign up today!

[swhd.org/rar](http://swhd.org/rar)

## Contact Us

**Kyrene Traditional Academy**  
3375 W. Galveston St.  
Chandler, AZ 85226

**Phone:** 480-541-5400  
**Fax:** 480-541-5410  
**Attendance:** 480-541-5401

**School Hours:** 7:25 am – 2:15 pm  
*Wednesday 7:25 am - 12:15 pm*

**Office Hours:** 7:00 am – 3:30 pm  
*Wednesday 7:00 am - 1:30 pm*

A+ School of Excellence™

