

December 17, 2024

The Kyrene Governing Board is wrapping up the 2024 calendar year with the formation of a committee that will help shape Kyrene’s future, the approval of a touchstone for teachers, and a fond farewell to three of its dedicated members.

With Gratitude and Optimism

This month, the Kyrene Governing Board will bid farewell to three members who devoted a combined 16 years to serving the students, staff and community of Kyrene School District. Kyrene is grateful to Michelle Fahy, Margaret Wright and Wanda Kolomyjec for volunteering your time and energy to Kyrene. It takes great courage and a passion for public education to serve as a school board member. Each of our outgoing board members is a current or former Kyrene parent, and they deeply understand the impact their decisions have on children. Under their leadership, Kyrene kept students and staff safe during a global pandemic; the district embarked on a five-year-strategic plan with specific and measurable goals; Kyrene earned a spot as one of the top ten districts in the state for classroom spending; and the district adopted its first-ever policies on social-emotional wellness and on diversity, equity and inclusion. Thank you all for your service to Kyrene.



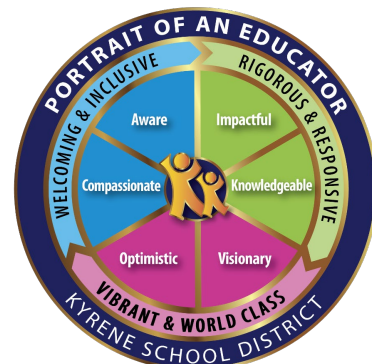
The Kyrene Governing Board has served as a model for how diverse boards can work together to accomplish shared goals that put students first. Kyrene looks to see that legacy of excellence continue as the board welcomes three new members next month: Cedric Collins, Bunny (Ruth) Davis and Amy Satre.

Long-Range Planning

On November 19, the Governing Board voted to establish a Long-Range Planning Committee to provide critical recommendations to the board in two areas. The committee will be asked to recommend a long-range plan to address projected enrollment trends and maximize the use of facilities, and it will recommend whether the board should call for a continuation of the Maintenance and Operations Override next November. Each of these issues has significant budgetary implications, and the board felt strongly that community input was critical. By forming an official board committee, the Governing Board has ensured total transparency for the public. Board committees are subject to the same open meeting laws as board meetings, which means the public will be notified of the meetings and may attend them in person or watch online. Agendas and minutes from the committee meetings will also be made public in the [Governing Board section](#) of the Kyrene web page. That page also contains a link to apply for the committee. The application window is open until January 24.

Portrait of an Educator

Also in November, the Board voted to approve the Portrait of a Kyrene Educator. The portrait is the culmination of a year of work involving more than one hundred stakeholders and a focused committee of Kyrene certified teachers. The portrait articulates the competencies and beliefs Kyrene educators must have in order to realize the Kyrene Promise. The Portrait of an Educator is aligned to the foundational pieces of the Kyrene Strategic Plan, including the Portrait of a Kyrene



Kid. It is a reflection of the values and practices that already exist in Kyrene, and it helps to define who we are and the excellence that happens in our district every day.

Connect with Kyrene

The Kyrene Governing Board is made up of five members, each elected to serve a four-year term. Kyrene is grateful to the individuals who volunteer their time to serve in such an important capacity. Community members may contact the Board by sending an email to governingboard@kyrene.org. A governing board is a collective body, and individual board member replies may not be representative of the entire board. Regular board meetings, study sessions and board retreats are open to the public and live streamed on the Kyrene website as well as the [Kyrene YouTube channel](#). For more information about Governing Board meetings, policies and responsibilities, visit the [Kyrene Governing Board](#) online.



Kevin Walsh
President



Margaret Wright
Vice President



Michelle Fahy
Member



Wanda Kolomyjec
Member



Triné Nelson
Member

READY FOR THE FUTURE

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