Kyrene de la Mirada - Leadership Academy



January 2025

A Message from Mrs. Anderson

Dear Families,

As we embark on a new year, I am thrilled to welcome everyone back to school after the winter break. I missed everyone! January is a time for new beginnings, growth, and learning opportunities for our students.

I am excited to share that we have a variety of engaging activities and events for this month.
Tuesday, January 14th is Raising Cane's Mirada Night Out from 4-10 pm.
Thursday, January 16th is a PTO Meeting at 2:40 in the library.
Tuesday, January 21st is our Kindergarten Showcase Night. Please let your friends and neighbors know.
Friday, January 24th is Milk and Cookies Day and Pajama Day.
Monday, January 27th is Mirada's "Sweet ARts" Show from 5-7 pm

***There are more details and information below on the above events.*

I want to take this opportunity to remind you of our school-wide goals for Kyrene's individualized learning programs, Amplify and iReady.

Amplify Reading is a digital reading program for grades K–8 that leverages the power of compelling storytelling to engage students in reading instruction and practice. Students in grades K-5 who use Amplify Reading showed better growth on DIBELS (our reading assessments) than students who did not use the program.

The lessons in **i-Ready Personalized Instruction for Mathematics** supplement classroom mathematics instruction and bolster the skills of on-grade level, advanced, and struggling learners. In a comprehensive study conducted by Curriculum Associates, i-Ready Diagnostic data from more than four million students indicated that on average, students across Grades K–8 **using i-Ready Personalized Instruction** experienced score gains in mathematics that were 38% greater than students who did not use i-Ready Personalized Instruction (Curriculum Associates, 2017).

Mirada's School- Wide Goals - 80% of each class will:

Amplify Reading = 45 minutes a week (a week is Monday through Sunday)
iReady = Grades K-2 pass 2 or more lessons and Grades 3-5 pass 1 or more lessons a week.

Every Monday, I report back to the students on their success with these goals. We have a school wide data wall in which we track the classes who have met the goals. The purple stars represent iReady and the silver stars represent Amplify. The next time you are on campus, take a look at it.

Parent Teacher/Student Led Conferences will be February 5, 6 and 7th. Those days are also early release days at 12:15pm. Be on the lookout for the sign up coming from your child's teacher the week of January 20th.

As we look forward to the month of January, I am excited about the upcoming events and opportunities for our students to continue to grow and thrive. Thank you for entrusting us with your children's education.

Kindly,
Michelle Anderson



Upcoming Events

January 7	Students return to school (Tuesday, full day)
January 14	Monarch Night Out-Raising Cane's on Warner and McClintock
January 16	PTO Meeting 2:45-3:30pm in the Media Center
	District Spelling Bee-Good Luck Skuntheshree!
January 17	100th Day of School
January 20	No School-MLK Jr. Day
January 21	Kindergarten and Preschool Showcase 6-7pm
January 24	Milk and Cookies Day/Pajama Day
January 27	Sweet Arts Art show/1st Grade Musical performance 5:30-7:30pm
January 31	MML Awards
	7:40-8:20 Kindergarten, 3rd and 4th Grades
	8:30-9:10 1st, 2nd and 5th Grades
February 5-7	Parent Teacher Conferences-Early Release Days at 12:15
	Book Fair-times to be published soon

February 12	Monarch Night Out-Peter Piper Pizza
February 14	Special Person's Day
February 17	No School-President's Day

View Full Calendar

Click Below for Important School Calendars

District Calendar | January Calendar | PTO Calendar

The Leader in Me™
great happens here

HABIT OF THE MONTH

HABIT 5: SEEK FIRST TO UNDERSTAND, THEN TO BE UNDERSTOOD

READ BELOW FOR PARENT TIPS ABOUT HABIT 5!

WHAT IS HABIT 5?

HABIT 5 FOCUSES ON LISTENING FIRST , WITH EMPATHY, TO TRULY UNDERSTAND OTHERS PERSPECTIVES BEFORE TRYING TO GET YOUR OWN MESSAGE ACROSS.

TIPS FOR SEEKING TO BE UNDERSTOOD

- CLARIFY OTHERS' NEEDS AND CONCERNS FIRST.
- USE "I" STATEMENTS, AVOIDING BLAME OR ACCUSATIONS.
- BE CLEAR ABOUT YOUR OWN MESSAGE.

KEY PRINCIPLES

EMPATHIC LISTENING:

LISTEN WITH EARS, EYES, AND HEART.



EMPATHETIC LISTENTING TIPS

- ENCOURAGE THE SPEAKER: "TAKE YOUR TIME... I'M LISTENING."
- FOCUS ON THEIR POINT OF VIEW
- ASK CLARIFYING QUESTIONS.
- ALLOW TIME FOR REFLECTION.
- BE GENUINE IN YOUR RESPONSES.

RESPECTFULLY SEEK TO BE UNDERSTOOD:

UNDERSTAND OTHERS BEFORE SHARING YOUR PERSPECTIVE.

WATCH HERE

Click HERE for Video



Nominate Staff Member of the Month

Do you know of a staff member who has positively impacted students, making learning engaging or shown dedication to their role? Then nominate them for Staff Member of the Month! All it takes is a few minutes to fill out a four response questionnaire. Nominations may be submitted by school staff, students or parents. Please submit nominations by the last Thursday of the month. Click the button below for link to nomination form.

Staff Member of the Month Nomination Form



Dear 5th Grade families,

This week your child will be bringing home information about the 2025-2026 middle school course selection process. Each 5th grader received an elective course selection form for Pueblo Middle School. Additional copies can be accessed on the Kyrene website on the Resources for Families and Community Page.

Parents/Guardians are requested to review this information with your child and sign the form, acknowledging your approval of the courses selected. Students are required to return the form to their teacher by January 15. During the week of January 23, our students are scheduled to use these forms to enter their preferences online with their classroom teacher.

*Families who are considering a different middle school **must apply** for registration at that school through the online portal when next year's registration window opens on January 14, 2025. While students may select a different middle school's course selection form, they are not guaranteed placement at that school. Families must apply and be approved for open enrollment to attend a non-resident school.*

Please Let Your Friends and Neighbors Know

Preschool / Kindergarten Showcase Night

Mirada Leadership Academy

5500 West Galveston St. Chandler 85226

KYRENE DE LA MIRADA · LEADERSHIP ACADEMY ·

Please join us:

Tuesday, January 21

6:00 – 7:00 PM

Incoming Kindergarteners are encouraged to attend.

LeaderinMe
FIND YOUR VOICE

Join Us for Showcase Night!

Are you a new family or have a little one ready for preschool or kindergarten? We invite you to join us for our upcoming Showcase Night on January 21st, from 6-7pm. This special event is the perfect opportunity to meet our admin team, teachers, and to learn more about the programs we offer. Come see why our school is the right fit for your family and discover how we create a welcoming and engaging learning environment for all of our learners. We look forward to meeting you!

Please let your friends and neighbors know about Showcase Night.





Beginning of the year district assessment reports have been posted to ParentVUE. Families are able to access the results through ParentVue in the documents section. Need help accessing the reports? … See the attachment for directions with screenshots. Need help understanding the reports or how to support your child? … See the family guide for each assessment or reach out to your child's teacher.

Assessment Results in ParentVUE	Family Guide to Home Connect Letters for DIBELS	i-Ready Family Report Guide	NWEA Family Report Guide

---

Attendance Notification Letters



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.

PTO CORNER



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year Mirada Families!

Can you believe it's 2025 and we're facing the second half of this year? I sure can't. There are a number of fun events to look forward to this month! I want to extend our thanks to all the families who attended our Ugly Holiday Sweater Party at Skateland last month. It was a blast! We can't wait to see you this month at Raising Cane's! Our January PTO meeting is 1/16 at 2:45 in the library. As always, childcare is provided. Please email us at hello@ptomirada.org to save a spot for your child. Virtual attendance via Zoom will also be an option, link information to be distributed closer to the meeting. We hope to see you all there!

MILK AND COOKIES DAY

In this during school event, our librarian Mrs. Moakler and the staff help inspire a love of books in our kids by acting out a different story each year. This year's book is one the kids are sure to love! It's a school wide pajama day and after the show the kids are served milk and cookies in their classrooms. We need volunteers to help distribute milk and cookies, please sign up at the following link: Milk and Cookies Volunteer Signup

MIRADA'S ART SHOW

Mrs. Newbury, Mirada's amazing art teacher, is hosting an Art Show on January 27th. Art pieces from all the students are framed and put on display, plus crafts, face painting and more! More info coming soon.

UPCOMING EVENTS!!!

JANUARY

14- Monarch Night Out at Raising Cane's
16 - PTO meeting at 2:45 pm in the Library
24- Milk and Cookies- Volunteers needed, see above!
27- Mirada's Sweet Arts Show

FEBRUARY

14- Special Person's Day- Special people in your children's lives are invited to spend some time in their classrooms and have lunch on campus- more info to come!

THANK YOU MONARCH FAMILIES!



Click here for Milk and Cookies Volunteer Sign Up

Special Person's Day

Friday, February 14th

****ADULT ONLY EVENT****

Grandparents or other "Special People" are invited to visit their Mirada students on Friday, February 14th. Our special guests will participate in a fun classroom activity and then join students for lunch and recess!

Please plan your visit during these scheduled times:

Grades	Check-in	Class Time*	Lunch	Recess
K	9:30	9:45-10:15	10:20-10:40	10:40-11:00
1	9:50	10:05-10:35	10:40-11:00	11:00-11:20
3	10:10	10:25-10:55	11:00-11:20	11:20-11:40
2	10:30	10:45-11:15	11:20-11:40	11:40-12:00
5	10:50	11:05-11:35	11:40-12:00	12:00-12:20
4	11:10	11:25-11:55	12:00-12:20	12:20-12:40

SCAN HERE TO VOLUNTEER!

SCAN HERE

***Special People must attend Class Time ON TIME to be eligible to attend Lunch and Recess. Please bring a valid photo ID for check in.**



Clothing Donations

The Health Office is in need of clothing for our students who need a clean, dry outfit change during the school day. We would appreciate packages of **new underwear** in all sizes for boys and girls. We also need **gently used elastic waist band pants and socks** in all sizes for boys and girls. We are also in need of **gently used girls tennis shoes** in sizes 10-2 to fit K-3rd graders. As your children outgrow these items, please consider donating them to us. Thank you!





Kyrene Positive Parenting - January Presentation

The Kyrene School District is pleased to continue the successful Positive Parenting Series this school year, focusing on issues that affect families both at school and at home. We hope you can join us.
JAN. 16 - Understanding the Impacts of ACES and Trauma
Understanding the Impacts of ACES and Trauma
Childhood trauma is more common than you think. Learn about the common concerns of childhood trauma.
Presenter:
Sanghoon Yoo

Date and Time:
January 16, 2025
6:00 - 7:00pm
Location:
Zoom
Registration & Zoom Link
In Partnership With:

Tempe Coalition
TO REDUCE UNDERAGE DRINKING AND DRUG USE



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 o-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!







southwest human development
Creating a Positive Future for Young Children

swhd.org/rar

Flyer in Spanish

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL WITH A TAX CREDIT DONATION!

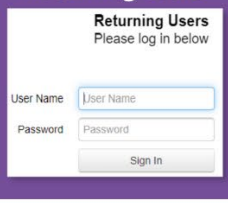
STEP 1

Visit kyrene.org/taxcredit and click Donate Now

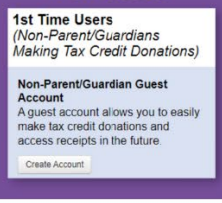
STEP 2

Sign In

Returning Users

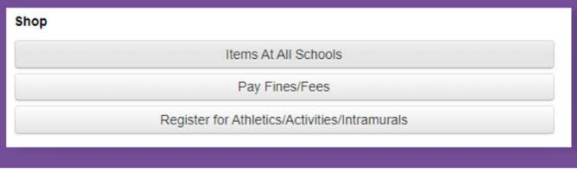


New Users



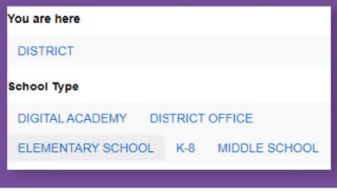
STEP 3

Select *Items at All Schools*



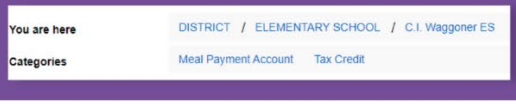
STEP 4

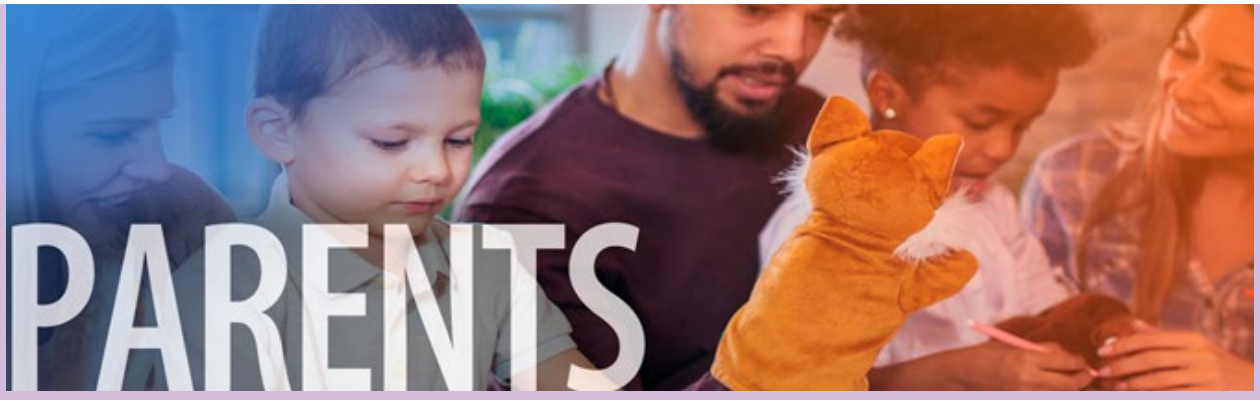
Select Campus Type



STEP 5

Select *School* and *Tax Credit*





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.

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.

Excused Absences

In cases involving prolonged illnesses, a written excuse from a physician may be requested to verify the absence. A student has an excused absence when one of the following conditions are met: When a student is not in attendance for any portion of or an entire school day and,

- The parent/guardian called the school's attendance line to report the student's absence within 24 hours and provided an acceptable excuse* for the absence, OR
- The parent/guardian was reached by the attendance office and provided the attendance office with an acceptable excuse* for the absence.

***Please note: we cannot excuse an absence that is reported via email; all absences must be reported to the school's attendance office via a telephone call.**

Unexcused Absences

A student has an unexcused absence under and of the following conditions:

- When a student is not in attendance for any portion of or for an entire day and does not have an acceptable excuse*.
- The parent/guardian has not called the school's attendance office to report the student's absence and provide an acceptable excuse* within 24 hours.
- The parent/guardian cannot be reached by the attendance office to obtain an acceptable excuse* for the absence.

*The District will report all student absences and tardiness to school in accordance with A.R.S.§ 15-901 (A)(1) and defined by the Arizona Department of Education.

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 must be turned off and kept in backpacks at al times on campus, except for prior to the ringing of the first bell for the start of the instructional day and after the ringing of the last bell for the end of the instructional day.

This exception does not apply if the student is on the school bus. When appropriate, cell phones and other electronic devices may be used during the school day under the direct supervision of the teacher. If these rules are not followed, the cell phone 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.



Payment & Balance Info

Food Services FAQs

Mirada Menus

Apply for Free and Reduced Meals

PORTRAIT OF A KYRENE KID

ADAPTABLE LEARNER • SELF-ADVOCATE • COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTOR
COMMUNICATOR • CRITICAL THINKER • PROBLEM SOLVER • COLLABORATOR
READY FOR THE FUTURE. HIGH SCHOOL. COLLEGE. CAREER. LIFE.



Scan to follow us on Instagram!

Scan to follow us on Facebook!

Contact Us

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

School Hours: 7:30 am - 2:15 pm
Early Release Wed: 12:15 pm

Office Hours: 7:00 am - 3:30 pm
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™