



Back To School Edition - July 17, 2026

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### **Message from the Principal**

#### **WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL WONDERFUL KTA FAMILIES and FRIENDS!!!**

Boy oh boy, did that summer break go by fast? I hope you and your families had a restful, fun and enriching break. KTA hosted summer learning opportunities for students of all ages and all reports indicate that it was a fun summer to be at KTA! We are in the final stages of getting ready to open the doors once again for our amazing students in grades K through 8!

#### **We have some new staff to welcome to our team!**

**Mrs. Amanda Talbott, fifth grade teacher**, comes to us directly from a successful teaching career in Utah! We are very excited to welcome her to our team and our community.

**Ms. Anna Cederdahl**, third grade teacher, comes directly to us from successfully student teaching last year at Kyrene de la Paloma. She is so excited and eager to start her teaching career as a Tiger!

**Mrs. Becky Brooks** is partnering with Mr. Aasin to support our school site. She will working mostly during the lunch periods, so those visiting for Tuesday lunches (which start August 19) will be able to say HELLO in person!

**Ms. Sarah Craig**, our new art teacher. We welcome Ms. Craig, coming to us from Kyrene de la Manitas Innovation Academy. She is thrilled to be at KTA and has shared many great ideas already!

Teachers and staff return this week for training and preparations for back to school.

#### **Meet the Teacher is NEXT WEEK: Monday July 21.**

Please read the information included in this newsletter carefully so that you know the detail.

**THE MIDDLE SCHOOL EVENT is different than the ELEMENTARY EVENT!!** Please be sure you have all the dates and times and specifics so that you can get the most out of these very important opportunities.

**Every year is new and different and exciting at KTA!** Our smallest students are learning to read and do math and become proficient at all the building blocks. Intermediate grade students make learning their own, and plan their own activities and assignments. Middle Schoolers are learning about the world ahead, and are preparing for what is ahead of them in school and life. All students are learning what it is to be a **CITIZEN, SCHOLAR and FRIEND** (our motto).

They are learning to become **GOOD PEOPLE!**

We lean into our 4Bs of **BE SAFE, BE RESPECTFUL, BE RESPONSIBLE AND BE KIND**. Basically, if you do these four things every day.....you are good to go! Our positive incentive for student behavior are based around these four Bs.

Soon the year will begin! Students will receive their new spirit shirts and we will be off and running!  
**Thank you for your continued support for another great school year!!!**

**Marianne L. Lescher, Ph.D.**

KyreneSchoolDistrict

# MEET THE TEACHER

**Monday, July 21**

1-4 p.m. **Middle Schools &**  
6-8 grade students from  
Kyrene Traditional Academy

5-6:30 p.m. **Elementary Schools &**  
K-5 students from Kyrene Traditional Academy,  
and all grades at Kyrene de las Manitas

All students - stop by the MPR to pick up your schedule, even if you are accessing it on-line. That way we know you were here. And we have so many informational flyers available.

*KTA invites all students for our Meet The Teacher events.*

***Middle School Grades 6 - 8 @ 1 p.m.** You will follow your child's schedule and meet all the teachers. Students are welcome to come alone if a parent is not available.*

***Grades K - 5 from 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.***

*Things you can do:*

- **K-5 Find out who your teacher is.**
- **Put money on your lunch account.**
- **Find out about bus information.**
- **Meet The PTO**
- **Find your line up location.**
- **Get your car card for pick-up.**
- **Take photos by our many backdrops and amazing murals.**

**KTA OFFICE SUMMER HOURS**

7/18/25, Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
7/21/25, Monday, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
7/22/25, Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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### **SCHOOL HOURS & INFORMATION**

Kindergarten through 8th grade:

Parent Drop off begins at 7:00 a.m. on either the Galveston St or Metro Blvd lots.

Mon—Tues—Thurs—Friday

7:25 a.m. —2:15 p.m.

First Bell Rings: 7:25 a.m.

Tardy Bell Rings: 7:30 a.m.

Early Release Every Wednesday

7:25 a.m.—12:15 p.m.

First Bell Rings: 7:25 a.m.

Tardy Bell Rings: 7:30 a.m.

(Students must be signed in by a parent if they arrive after the 7:30 a.m. tardy bell to obtain a pass.)

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### **SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS**

All the school supply lists are located on the [KTA website](#).

Scroll down below the video under News & Events and you will see a picture with the title 'Supply Lists'.

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If you were receiving a free or reduced lunch last year, you will have to reapply. Your free and reduced lunch status will be extended through September 4. After that, if you have not reapplied, it will end.

## **National School Lunch Program**

The National School Lunch Program is a program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Through this program, eligible students may be offered free or reduced-price meals. We also participate in the School Breakfast Program at most schools. Meal payments may be made online, as this program operates in all of the schools in the Kyrene School District. Meal application information is distributed and made available to every student in the district at the beginning of the school year. Application information will remain confidential and will be used only to determine eligibility for free or reduced-priced meals. Applications are also available at all school offices or by clicking on the meal application links.

Please visit [Linq Connect](#) to submit an online meal application to our district. You may turn in paper meal applications to any school office. We strongly encourage all families to apply. The free, reduced-price, and paid meal information is used to qualify the school district for other student qualifications and funding. You will receive an eligibility letter via email once your application has been processed that includes the status of your student(s) meal eligibility. If you have a concern regarding the decision of your meal application, please email [kbs@kyrene.org](mailto:kbs@kyrene.org).



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## **Current Students**

Your Parent Acknowledgements are now available in your Parent Vue account. Please sign in and accept the acknowledgements.

## **New Students**

Your Parent Acknowledgements will be available in your Parent Vue account after

## PARENT HOMEWORK

Please accept all of your parent acknowledgements.

the first day of school. Please sign in and accept the acknowledgements. Your ParentVue is the account that you set up to do you registration. This is now where you will find grades, attendance, report cards, assessments. Everything you need to know about your child will be in ParentVue.



## KTA SPIRIT WEAR

The KTA PTO is selling a variety of items with the KTA logo. Car decals, water bottle stickers, key chains, totes, seat cushions, hats, cups, t-shirt, socks.

Items will be available for purchase at Meet The Teacher. You can also order [on line](#). You can also order by dropping off the completed [form](#) at the office.



## **Big Bus News!**

### **Better Tracking Coming Soon.**

*Attention Bus Riders! Kyrene School District will be launching a new and improved app for tracking your child's bus route next school year. **Stopfinder** is an easy-to-use, all-in-one app that provides accurate information about bus routes and locations. You'll be able to track your child's bus, set up alerts for bus arrivals and departures, and communicate directly with the Kyrene Transportation team—all through the Stopfinder app. Kyrene will be sending*

additional information to all eligible bus riders in July.

Stopfinder can be downloaded for free from the App Store or Google Play, but please note that you won't be able to use the app without an invitation to register from Kyrene. Those email invitations will be coming in July, before the start of the new school year. In the meantime, please log in to your ParentVUE account to verify your contact information is correct.



### **BACK-TO-SCHOOL BACKPACK EVENT**

#### **"GEAR UP FOR SUCCESS"**

All students who are registered at a Kyrene school for the 2025-2026 school year are eligible for a Back-To-School backpack event. Distribution will be on the following days:

**Date(s): Friday, July 18 & Monday, July 21**  
**Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm**

Family Resource Center  
KYRENE SCHOOL DISTRICT

**WELCOME BACK FAMILIES!**  
IT'S TIME TO  
**GEAR UP FOR SUCCESS**  
July 18 & July 21 | 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Kyrene students are invited to receive a backpack with school supplies

Kyrene students **and** family members are invited to receive:  
Dental needs (exams, cleanings, etc.)  
Vaccinations  
Sports Physicals  
Eye screenings/glasses  
Food Box  
Hygiene items  
Gently used clothing  
Resources



### **NEED FOOD?**

- Generation Church Food Pantry (next to Lomas)  
11832 S. Warner Elliot Loop  
Phoenix, AZ 85044  
**Wednesday & Saturday 9:30am – 11am**
- Mountain Park Health Center  
1840 E. Broadway Rd.  
Tempe, AZ 85252  
**Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month**  
9:00am – 10am



### **KFRC SUMMER HOURS**

To better meet the needs of the community, in collaboration with volunteer Kyrene Teachers, the Kyrene Family Resource Center will be open **Thursdays** during the summer from **9:00am – 4:00pm** on the following days:

**Thursdays, June 5, 12, 19 and 26.**

**Thursdays, July 10, 17**



Gifted Child Assessment Notice. All public school districts have an ongoing “Child Find” obligation. This means that the Kyrene School District will identify, locate and evaluate all children who are in need of gifted education services. Kyrene makes gifted testing available for students at school sites three times per year by application, and universally tests all grade 2 in each Spring. Applications for the 1st window (grades 3-5) are due July 18, 2025. If you think your child may be gifted, please visit the website at [www.kyrene.org/gifted](http://www.kyrene.org/gifted) for

information about gifted education, services, and testing in Kyrene.

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### **Jeremiah's Ice**

August 1, 2026

3:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

4980 W Ray Road

Chandler, AZ 85226

480-702-0400

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### **Kindergarten**

#### **Meet & Greet**

Monday, August 4

7 a.m. - 8 a.m.

Room 9

Enter through the courtyard gate by the bike rack.

Who: Kindergarten Parents

Drop your kids at the playground and stop by room 9 to meet other parents.

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# PTO Meeting

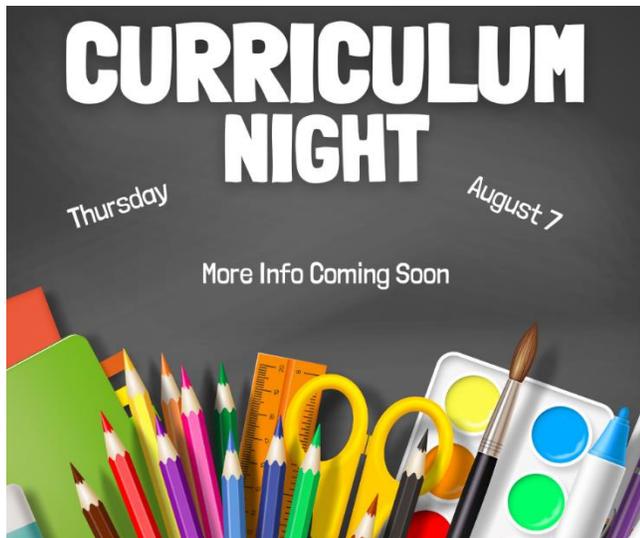
**August 4, 2025**

First PTO meeting of the year.

All parents are welcome.

5:30 p.m.

In the MPR, enter at the garden gates.



## **Curriculum Night**

**K - 5 Students**

Thursday, August 7

All parents are encouraged to come and learn about the curriculum. Find out what the expectations are for the coming school year.

We hope to see all K - 5 families. More information will follow.

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**Friday, August 15**

**EXTRA EARLY RELEASE DAY**

Students will be released at 12:15.

Please plan accordingly and be sure that your pick up procedures are adjusted to accommodate this change.

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**Monday, August 18**

**No School For Students**

**Staff Development Day**

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**Thursday, August 21**

**4 p.m. - 8 p.m.**

**Peter Piper Pizza**

**Ray Rd & I-10**

**4940 E Ray Rd, Phoenix**

**20% of all food, drink, and fun sales will be donated to KTA PTO to support keeping the staff supply closet stocked all year!**



**Middle School**

**Grades 6 - 8**

**\$1 Free Dress Day**

Throughout the year the PTO promotes a \$1 free dress day. Students make a \$1 donation to the PTO. This donation helps keep down the expense of the end of year middle school dance.

The dates for 25/26 are:

August 28

October 23

December 11

January 22

March 26



**All School/All Grades**

**\$1 Free Dress Day**

Throughout the year the PTO promotes a \$1 free dress day. Students make a \$1 donation to the PTO. Funds are used for various events and supplies throughout the year.

The dates for 25/26 are:

September 25

November 20

February 26

May 21

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**Friday, August 29**

**SPIRIT DAY: College Colors Day**

Across the United States students, parents, family, faculty, fans, and alumni celebrate College Colors Day every year on the Friday before Labor Day. This year, it takes place on August 29. By rocking your college colors and apparel, you show spirit and school pride.

Students can wear jeans (with no rips or tears) along with a college theme shirt.



**2025 - 2026**

July 23	First Day of School
August 18	No School - Staff Develop
September 1	No School, Labor Day
Sept 29—Oct 10	Fall Break
October 13	No School, Teacher Plan
November 11	No School, Veteran's Day
November 26-28	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 20-Jan 2	Winter Break
January 5	No School, Teacher Plan
January 19	No School, MLK
February 16	No School, President's Day
March 9—20	Spring Break
March 23	No School, Teacher Plan
May 28	Last Day of School

[View Full Calendar](#)

## Upcoming Events

### JULY

- July 21                    **Meet The Teacher**  
**MS Grades 6 - 8 @ 1 p.m.**  
**K - 5 Grades @ 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**
- July 23                    **First Day of School - NOT AN EARLY RELEASE**

### AUGUST

- August 1                    **Jeremiah's Ice Fundraiser 3 - 10 p.m.**
- August 4                    **Kindergarten Meet & Greet sponsored by PTO. Info coming soon!**
- August 4                    **First PTO Meeting of the year.**
- August 7                    **K - 5 Curriculum Night**
- August 15                    **Extra Early Release**
- August 18                    **No School for students - Staff Development Day**
- August 21                    **Peter Piper Pizza Night**
- August 28                    **Middle School Only - \$1 Free Dress Day**
- August 29                    **Spirit Day: College Colors Day**

For a complete calendar for the Kyrene School District [click here](#).

## 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*

