Kyrene de la Mirada - Leadership Academy

MIRADA NEWS

November 2025

A Message from Mrs. Anderson

Dear Families,

November is here, and it's already shaping up to be a busy and exciting month! Between special events, holidays, and classroom celebrations, the days will fly by before we know it. As you're making your to-do lists, please remember how important it is to make your voice heard—**be sure to drop off your ballot today** if you haven't already. Every vote truly makes a difference in our community. Ballots must be turned in by 7pm. The closest drop box location is at Pecos Community Center at 17010 S. 48th St. Phoenix 85048 (near Kohls). You can look for other locations online at https://elections.maricopa.gov/voting/where-to-vote.html.

We also want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of our **veterans** for their service and sacrifice. Your courage and dedication inspire our students and staff every day.

MORNING DROP OFF SAFETY CONCERNS: We've noticed some families using the parking lot to drop off students in the morning. This creates unsafe conditions for students and disrupts parking lot traffic. Please remember that the parking lot is for parking only. **Drop offs should take place in the designated loop.**

If you need to park, please walk your child to the building **using one of the cross walks**. This helps keep everyone safe and ensures that cars and pedestrians can move safely through the

lot and loop. Children live what they learn. Let's show them safety, courtesy, and care-even in the parking lot. Thank you for helping us make arrival and dismissal safe for all students!

Finally, we're looking forward to seeing everyone at our **Fall Festival this Friday**—it's always a wonderful time to celebrate together as a school community! Please see the Fall Fest flyers below for information on how to purchase tickets. Please remember this is not a drop off event. **Students must be accompanied by a parent at all times.**

Warmly,

Michelle Anderson

Principal

2025 Maintenance & Override Election-DROP OFF BALLOTS BY 7PM TODAY!

The Kyrene Governing Board has called for a special election on November 4, 2025, as recommended by the Long Range Planning Committee. The measure calls for the continuation of the Maintenance & Operations (M&O) Override. This override is a voter-approved initiative that generates 15% additional maintenance and operations funding for schools.

M&O Overrides provide additional funding to support people, positions, and programs that would not be possible with state funding alone—such as teacher salaries, special area instruction and targeted student-support services.

Kyrene Long Range Planning Committee



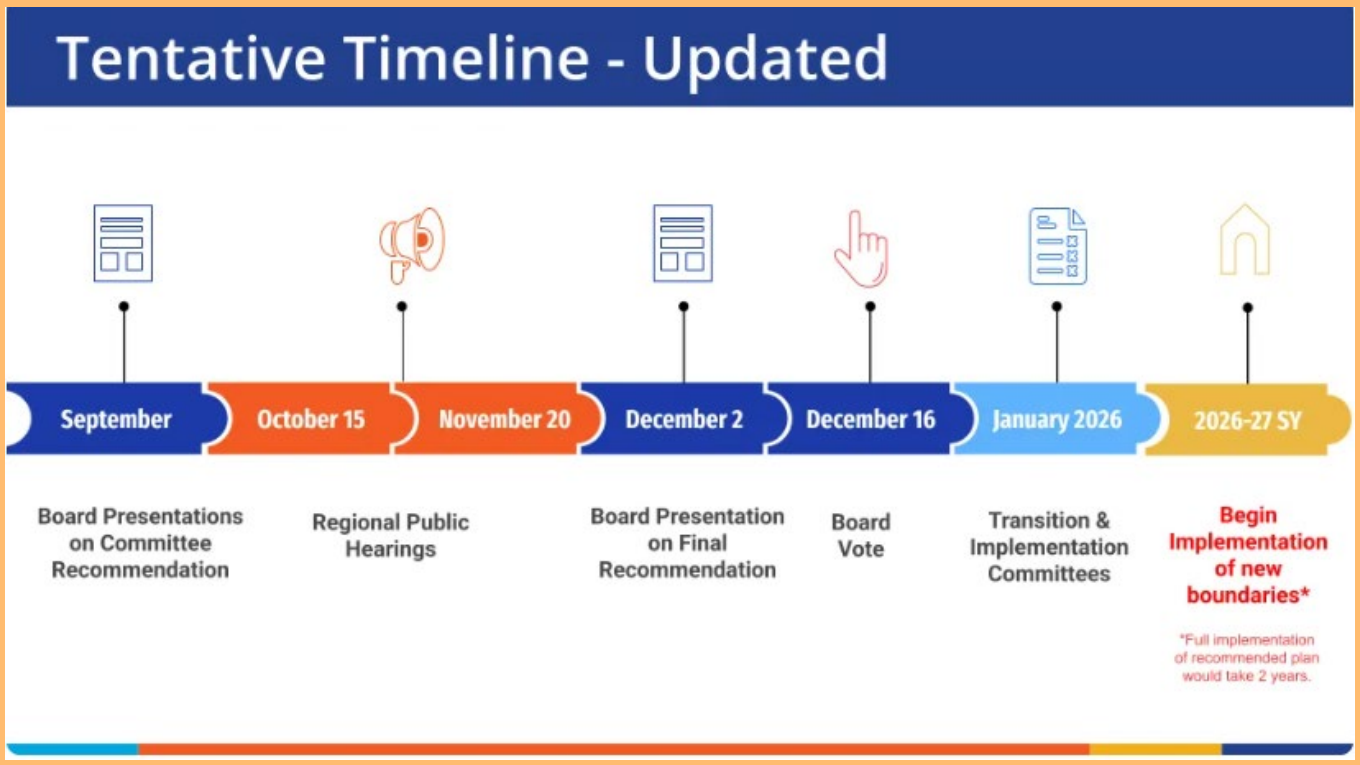
2025 Maintenance and Override Election Link to District Info

The Kyrene Governing Board established a Long-Range Planning Committee to address enrollment trends and maximize the use of facilities. After months of study, the committee reached consensus on a recommendation, which will be presented to the board in September. The recommendation is not a reflection of the quality or achievements of any school, but rather a reflection of Kyrene's commitment to ensuring all Kyrene schools are better-resourced and positioned for long-term success. **No decisions will be made until December at the earliest,** so there is time for families, staff, and community members to learn more, ask questions, and share feedback.

FAQs. In addition to our internal Long Range Planning FAQs, Kyrene has now published public-facing FAQs on the Long Range Plan web page to address the most common questions received so far.

Website Updates. The web page, [www.kyrene.org/longrangeplan,](www.kyrene.org/longrangeplan) went through an overhaul today to transition to the community engagement phase of long-range planning. Content includes an outline of the committee's recommendation, a map, a timeline, public hearings, FAQs, communications archives, board meetings, and a portal for public comment. Committee work (including agendas, minutes, slide decks and live streams) can still be found on a sub page.

Enrollment for Next Year: Enrollment for the next school year does not begin until February. At this time, no decisions have been finalized, and there is nothing families need to do.





District hearing - Date Change! Kyrene will hold a centralized hearing at the Kyrene District Office on **November 18** at 6:00 p.m., prior to the regularly scheduled governing board meeting. This provides an additional opportunity for the community to provide feedback.

Kyrene Long Range Planning Site
Click here for FAQs & more info

Upcoming Events

November 4	Election Day
November 5	Long Range Planning Regional Meeting at Pueblo 6pm
November 7	MML Awards
	7:40-8:20 Kindergarten, 2nd and 3rd Grades 8:30-9:10 1st, 4th and 5th Grades
	Fall Festival 5:30 - 8pm **Students must be accompanied by parent!**
	Melody Makers perform 6pm in MPR
November 10	3rd Grade Field Trip
November 11	No School in observance of Veteran's Day

November 12 Monarch Night Out at SomeBurros-All Day Mention Mirada!

November 13 PTO Meeting 5:30-6:30pm in the Media Center

November 18 Governing Board Meeting at DO 6-8pm

November 21 4th Grade Poetry Jam 1-2pm

November 25 Turkey Trot

8:00-8:40 Kinder and 1st Grades

8:50-9:30 2nd and 3rd Grades

9:40-10:20 4th and 5th Grades

November 26-30 No School-Thanksgiving Holiday **WEDNESDAY** through Sunday

December 2 Governing Board Meeting at DO 6-8pm

December 3 Monarch Night Out at MOD Pizza

December 5 MML Awards

7:40-8:20 Kindergarten, 2nd and 3rd Grades
8:30-9:10 1st, 4th and 5th Grades

December 12 Lunch on the Lawn-details to follow

Melody Makers Caroling and Concert 6pm

December 20-Jan 5 Winter Break

View Full Calendar

Click Below for Important School Calendars

District Calendar

November Calendar

PTO Calendar

EARLY RELEASE on all Wednesdays

Students will be released at 12:15pm.



Wednesday 11/5

Wednesday 11/12

Wednesday 11/19

NO SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY 11/26

ATTENDANCE MATTERS.
ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

Kyrene School District is committed to working with families to improve student attendance and academic success. Our school will send email notices when a student misses four or more days of school, whether excused or unexcused. Additional notices are sent when a student reaches 8 and 13 absences. If a student exceeds 18 absences, a more formal letter will be sent, but it is our goal to partner with families before that happens. Kyrene has a webpage with resources to maintain good attendance habits, including our "Too Sick for school" guide to help determine when to keep children home.

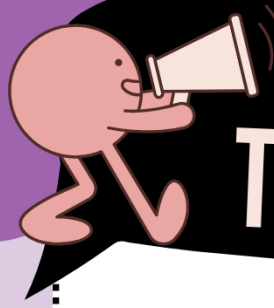
As we continue to partner with you regarding your child's attendance, we need to inform you of an important update regarding how "absences due to appointments" should be reported. In alignment with guidance from the Arizona Department of Education (ADE), please be specific when reporting the reason for your child's appointment. Only appointments for medical, dental or behavioral health will be marked as excused. All other appointments will be considered unexcused. If you have any questions about this update or your child's attendance, please contact your school's attendance clerk.

How to Submit Absences in ParentVue

Report Absences in ParentVue

Parents, you are now welcome to report absences in ParentVue in addition to calling the 24 hour Attendance Line at 480-541-4201. Remember, you must inform the front office of any absences even if you let the teacher know. Absences cannot be reported via email; only via ParentVue or the Attendance Line.

The Leader in Me™
great happens here



HABIT OF THE MONTH

HABIT 3: PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST

READ BELOW FOR PARENT TIPS ABOUT HABIT 3!

WHAT IS HABIT 3?

HABIT 3: PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST FOCUSES ON WORKING FIRST, THEN PLAYING. IT IS IMPORTANT TO IDENTIFY AND PRIORITIZE WHAT MATTERS MOST- YOUR "BIG ROCKS."

- BIG ROCKS: ESSENTIAL TASKS (E.G., SCHOOL WORK, FAMILY TIME, CHORES).
- LITTLE ROCKS: LESS IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES (E.G., WATCHING TV, GAMING).

HELPING YOUR CHILD

- ASK ABOUT THEIR KEY RESPONSIBILITIES
- ENCOURAGE DIFFICULT TASKS FIRST
- DISCUSS PROCRASTINATION AND ITS EFFECTS

PRIORITIZING FAMILY TIME

- CREATE A FAMILY MISSION STATEMENT
- SCHEDULE ONE-ON-ONE TIME AND REGULAR FAMILY MEALS
- ESTABLISH FAMILY TRADITIONS TO STAY CONNECTED

STEPS TO PRIORITIZE BIG ROCKS



- FOCUS ON IMPORTANT TASKS
- SAY "NO" TO DISTRACTIONS
- SET PRIORITIES AND CREATE A SCHEDULE
- STAY DISCIPLINED AND ORGANIZED

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- READ TOGETHER
- LEARN A NEW SKILL
- PLAY GAMES OR COOK A MEAL
- VISIT LOCAL ATTRACTIONS
- DISCUSS FAMILY MATTERS OR PLAN TRADITIONS

VIDEO LINKS:

ADULTS: LINK
K-2: LINK

Adults: Link

K-2 Link



Opt in to Receive Text Messages from Mrs. Anderson

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 Mirada and the district.



Dean Street Parking Lot

The Dean Street Parking Lot is ONLY to be used for buses, CCD and Integrated Preschool. Beginning, Tuesday, October 14th at drop off and pick up, a person will be waiting at the entrance to the Dean St. parking lot and you will be REQUIRED to show the NEW 2025-26 visor tag that designates you are permitted to use that lot. Please display this tag prominently so that access can be swiftly granted.



Get out your running shoes... the **Turkey Trot is on Tuesday, November 25th!**

Students and families should wear active clothing & tennis shoes and bring a water bottle on the day of the Trot.

Time	Grade
8:00-8:40	K and 1st
8:50-9:30	2nd and 3rd
9:40-10:20	4th and 5th

2025 Turkey Trot Volunteer Sign Up Link

2025 Turkey Trot Tshirt order link-DUE 11/7 at 9am

Please continue to send pictures for our featured bulletin board in the MPR titled “We are active at Mirada” where students highlight and share how they stay active while having fun outside of school. If you would like to share a picture, email me the picture you would like to feature to my email below.

vdurazo@kyrene.org

Remember to have your child war tennis shoes, comfortable athletic clothing for movement, and bring a water bottle on their PE day.

Thank you for your support in Physical Education class,

Mrs. Durazo

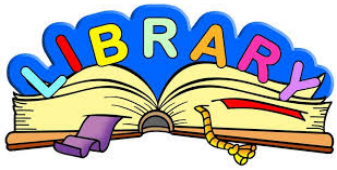
Beginning of the year district assessment reports have been posted to ParentVUE. Families are able to access the results through ParentVue in the documents section. Need help accessing the reports? See the attachment for directions with screenshots. Need help understanding the reports or how to support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

Assessment Results in ParentVue

Understanding i-Ready Results

NWEA Family Guide

DIBELS Family Guide



Kyrene has updated how we share new library book purchases with families. In lieu of a once-a-year 60-day review window, the district and school websites will have lists of new library purchases. The list will be updated up to 3-times a year in order to capture all new titles purchased and available to students for check-out. Families may request that a student be opted out of specific titles, and those who want a broader review can use the District's existing reconsideration process. Details on this process can be viewed on the Media Center Public Review Webpage. Questions can be directed to the Academic Equity and Excellence Department.

PTO Corner



Fall Festival

The Fall Festival is this Friday from 5:30-8:00pm. Tickets are $12 per child, with a max of $48. Children 4 and under are free. Tickets are available at the gate or can be pre-purchased here: https://miradapto.org/volunteer/fall-festival/ The Fall Festival is our biggest social event of the year and is chock full of fun for the kids. We can't wait to see you there!

Yearbooks

Yearbook sales have officially begun. They are $20 through 12/31/25 then the price goes up to $25. They can be purchased at the following link: https://www.buytheyearbook.com/en/
School Code: 733683
Fifth grade tributes can be purchased via this link by using the Purchase an Ad link.

Deadline to order your Turkey Trot tshirt is 9am on 11/7! Shirts are $15 and can be ordered at the following link: https://forms.gle/dgtCbYN3D9PrRy7M7



Upcoming Events

- 11/7 Fall Festival from 5:30-8pm
- 11/11 No School
- 11/12 Monarch Night Out at Someburros, all day
- 11/13 PTO Meeting 5:30pm
- 11/25 Turkey Trot
- 11/26- 11/28 No School, Thanksgiving Break
- 12/3 Monarch Night Out- Mod Pizza
- 12/12 Lunch on the Lawn
- 12/18 Monarch Ugly Sweater Night at Skateland
- 12/22-1/5 No School, Winter Break

Kyrene School District Update

Please consider joining us for the community hearing at Pueblo Middle School Wednesday 11/5 at 6pm. We are hoping to see a strong purple presence in the audience to show the strength and support of our amazing Mirada community. There is no pressure to speak, but if you're interested in speaking and need help with topic ideas please email hello@ptomirada.org and we'll be happy to send a few suggestions.
More information about the Long Range Planning and closure process so far can be found here.

Important Dates:
Upcoming Board Meetings: 11/18, 12/2
East Side of 10 Public Hearings: 11/5 @ Pueblo, 11/19 @ Pueblo
West Side of 10 Public Hearings: 11/12 @ Altadena
Potential Board Vote on Changes: December 16th

Email: hello@ptomirada.org Web: miradapto.org IG: @miradapto

Fall Fest Flyer

Fall Fest Tickets

Yearbook Flyer

Yearbook Sales Link

Food Drive

Some Burros

Join the PTO Contact List





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.

Nov. 19 – Rise in Fentanyl/Narcan Training
Learn about the Rise in Fentanyl and Narcan. Learn how to save a life by administering Narcan.

Presenter:
Joronda Montano

Date and Time:
November 19, 2025
6:00-7:00pm

Location:
Kyrene School District
8700 South Kyrene Road
Tempe, AZ 85284

Nov. 20- Calm Bodies, Ready Minds

Presenter:

Bri Armijo and Amy Hecker

Date and Time:

November 20, 2025

6-7:30pm

Location:

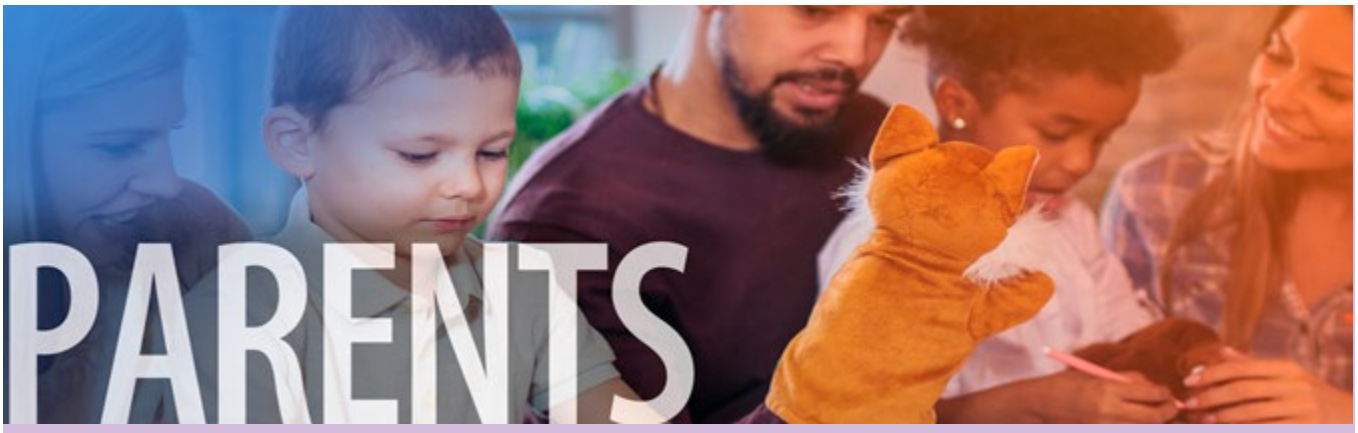
Kyrene School District
8700 South Kyrene Road
Tempe, AZ 85284

Join us for Calm Bodies, Ready Minds: Understanding Sensory Processing and the Functions of Behavior to Promote Home and Classroom Readiness. Join Bri Armijo, Lead Behavior Intervention Teacher and Amy Hecker OTR/L, Lead OT to learn different strategies to support

self-regulation and sensory processing to improve your child's readiness for home life and in the classroom. CALM BODIES, READY MINDS Registration, Nov 20, 2025, 6-7:30 pm at the District Office.

Tempe Coalition
TO REDUCE UNDERAGE DRINKING AND DRUG USE

Flier/Sign Up Info
Calm Bodies, Ready Minds



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 all 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.



Food Services Webpage

Payment & Balance Info

Food Services FAQs

Mirada Menus

Apply for Free and Reduced Meals
Must reapply yearly

Kyrene is dedicated to ensuring students receive healthy and nutritious meals. With the current shutdown of the federal government, we have not been made aware of any changes to the School Breakfast Program or the National School Lunch Program that will impact our communities at this time. Kyrene will continue to offer breakfast and lunch meal services to our students through these programs until further notice.

- **Please remember you must re-apply for Free and Reduced Meals each year.**
- Students may bring large bills to pay for their meal account – **please remember no change is provided back to the student, the entire amount is applied to the student's account.**
- If a student does not have enough funds on their account, after two (2) meals (breakfast or lunch) they are provided an alternate meal as per District policy. The student may still get side options and salad bar along with their milk.
- Please remember that dietary restrictions must be accompanied by a Dr's note and will be accommodated to the best of our ability. SFE is unable to honor preferences or requests.
- You may check your student's lunch balance by visiting **linqconnect.** Linq Connect is our self-service lunch account portal, which makes it possible for Kyrene families to easily manage their student(s) lunch account. **Families may check meal balances, transfer funds, apply for free or reduced-priced meals or create spending limits for their students by visiting linqconnect.** For any additional questions or assistance with your linqconnect account please call 1-844-467-4700 and follow the prompts. Payments are applied to your student's meal account at 6:50am, 9:35am, 11:05am, 12:05pm and 11:35pm daily to update the meal account balance.
- Kyrene and SFE want to assure you that when your child chooses to enjoy ala carte snacks from their cafeteria, they are selecting options that meet the strict nutritional standards outlined by the USDA's Smart Snack guidelines. These guidelines prioritize offering snacks that are lower in fat, sugar, and sodium, while also providing essential nutrients to support your child's overall health and well-being. The guidelines require that drinks be either unflavored water or 100% juice, and that snacks contain at least 50% whole grain or list the first ingredient as a fruit, vegetable, dairy food, or protein food.

It's also important to note that while some snack packaging may appear similar to those found in stores outside of school, each product has been carefully reformulated to comply with

federal Smart Snack guidelines. Our foodservice management company, SFE, works diligently to ensure that all snacks offered to students are both delicious and nutritious, meeting or exceeding federal standards.

We encourage you to discuss with your child the importance of making mindful choices when it comes to snacking. By reinforcing healthy eating habits both at home and at school, we can collectively support our children in making nutritious choices that contribute to their overall growth and development. If you would like more resources and information about Smart Snack requirements, including activities that can be done at home, we recommend checking out the USDA's website here.

Thank you for partnering with us in promoting a culture of health and wellness for our students. If you have any questions or concerns about the smart snack options available in your child's cafeteria, please don't hesitate to reach out to the foodservice office at 480-541-1660.



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

Quicklinks

Food Services and Menu
ParentVUE
StudentVUE
Technology Assistance
Family Handbook

A+ School of Excellence™

Attendance: 480-541-4201

Health Office: 480-541-4220

Cafeteria: 480-541-4226

Kids Club: 480-541-4230

A+ School of Excellence™