Kyrene Akimel A-al

AKIMEL A-AL NEWS

October 31,2025

Message from the Principal

Good evening Rattler Families,

This week was such a fun and memorable one here in Rattler Territory! It has been quite some time since Akimel A-al hosted a fall festival (pre-COVID times), and this week we proudly celebrated our first Día de los Muertos Festival—and it was a tremendous success!

A heartfelt thank-you to our incredible families, parents, and our dedicated PTSO who helped organize this joyful event for our community. It was wonderful to see so many families enjoying the cooler weather and, even more so, to see our students simply being kids—laughing, playing, and connecting with one another.

I also have some **very exciting news** to share with our community! This week, the annual **state letter grades** were released, and I am beyond proud to announce that **Akimel A-al is officially an A-rated school!**
Over the past five years, our staff has worked tirelessly to rebuild our systems, refine how we use data, and strengthen both academic and social-emotional supports for students as they navigate the middle school years. This recognition reflects the dedication, collaboration, and excellence that define our Rattler community.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for all that you do to support our school. Together, we have proven what is possible when a community stays united in purpose and committed to student success. I know that even greater things are ahead for Akimel A-al.

Wishing you a restful weekend, and we look forward to welcoming your Rattler student back on campus Monday morning!

Warmly,
Shalini McCarthy
Principal, Akimel A-al Middle School



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

The Rattler Drama Club is presenting their performance of Guys I& Dolls Jr. on November 20th - 22nd. The November 20 & 21 performances are in the evening and the 22nd is a matinee performance.
Tickets are $8 each and can be purchased through our online payment portal InTouch.
Get them now you don't want to miss it!

PTSO News

Krispy Kreme Donut Fundraiser – Only 2 Days Remaining!
There's still time to grab your favorite sweet treat and support Akimel A-al! Donuts bring people together, spark smiles, and help us fund student programs and activities.
Order here: https://grouprai.se/krispykreme64692sa

Support Akimel A-al PTSO with Krispy Kreme Digital Dozens



Price Per Dozen: $15

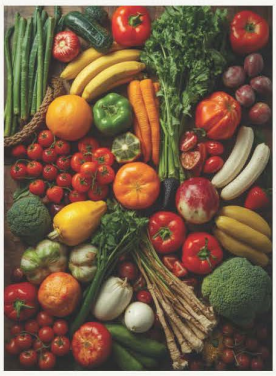
PTSO Website



FOOD RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

NOVEMBER 2025 | NOT AN *EXHAUSTIVE* LIST

COMMUNITY BUSINESS RESOURCES



DOORDASH

Click HERE for Website Link

Waiving merchant fees for all 300-plus Project DASH partners—food banks, pantries, and community organizations—throughout November. All delivery service fees will be waived for 300,000 grocery orders for SNAP recipients, as well.

PETER PIPER PIZZA

Starting Nov. 3, all Peter Piper Pizza locations in Phoenix will offer $2.99 one-topping personal pizzas for children 15 and under. The deal will be available Monday through Friday from 2-5 p.m..

BAKED CHEMISTRY VEGAN

Introducing a pay-what-you-can meal called the Chemistry Community Plate. Every Wednesday at the Uptown Phoenix Farmer's Market and every Saturday at the Downtown Phoenix Farmer's Market, a wholesome, nourishing option will be available for anyone who needs it.

LOVEBITE DUMPLINGS

From Nov. 1 to Nov. 8, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., anyone with a SNAP or EBT card can get a free meal from LoveBite Dumplings.
The woman, locally owned dumpling spot is located near Roosevelt Street and Central Avenue.

KING PIGEON THRIFT AND VINTAGE

A central Phoenix thrift store is "snapping back" to assist those in need. Located near Central Avenue and Camelback Road, King Pigeon Thrift and Vintage is providing sandwich kits to those in need, as well as non-perishable items and resources to help those impacted by the SNAP freeze. On Nov. 1, starting at 9 a.m., anyone in need can stop by the store to pick up food. "All are welcome. No questions asked," their post on Instagram reads.

THANKSGIVING RESOURCES

Walmart is advertising Thanksgiving meal for $4 a person. Click HERE for the website's detail.

Click HERE for the Aldi's website. **Aldi** is also advertising that Thansgiving meal can be purchased for $40 which includes (shown in the image).

ALL TYPES OF ASSISTANCE (rent, clothing, etc): Call 211 Arizona or visit 2-1-1 Arizona website HERE.



Upcoming Events

NOV 4: Cross Country Meet @ Altadena - 4:30 PM
NOV 5: PTSO Meeting
NOV 11: Veterans Day NO SCHOOL
NOV 20-22: Guys & Dolls Performance
NOV 26 - NOV 28: Thanksgiving Holiday- No School
DEC 9: 8th Grade Civics Testing



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.

KYRENE 2025-26
SCHOOL YEAR
PARENT TRAININGS



ESS Parent Trainings

Plan to attend the following ESS parent training

HANDS ON OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AND ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

OCTOBER 20, 2025

Come and explore items and get ideas from our Occupational therapists and Assistive Technology specialist. An area will also be set up for families to make and take items home to use with your children.

October 20, 2025 | 6-7:30 pm
Kyrene District Office

Scan the QR code to register or go to:
https://forms.gle/Qgzi7eFVNN3eEbYX8

Contact Amy Dill, adill@kyrene.org
for more information.

SCAN ME

KyreneSchoolDistrict



Please consider giving a tax credit donation to the Rattlers. Your tax credit dollars make such a difference to our Rattler community. Your generosity helps support various school initiatives and provides opportunities that enhance the middle school experience for our students. If you haven't already, please consider making a tax credit contribution. Every contribution makes a meaningful impact, and together, we can create a positive and enriching environment for our students.

To make a tax credit contribution, please visit https://az-kyrene.intouchreceipting.com/ or contact our school office for assistance. Your support is vital, and we thank you for helping us provide the best possible educational experience for our students.

Thank you for your continued support.

To donate click the link below or scan the QR code to be taken directly to our payment portal.
Online Tax Credit Donation

NOTE: Refunds cannot be made on tax credit donations

Quick Links

- **School Website**
- **Online Payment Portal** - This can be used for purchasing PE Uniforms, lunch accounts, tax credit donations, paying for athletic fees, field trips etc.
- **Breakfast/Lunch Menus - Application for Free/Reduced Meals**
- **Transportation, Bus Information**
- **ParentVUE and StudentVUE** - Log into your ParentVue to access student schedules. It's a good idea to write down the class schedule for a quick glance during the first few days of school. This is also where you will see student grades and communications from teachers.
- **Kyrene Family Handbook**

Contact Us

Kyrene Akimel A-al
2720 E Liberty Lane,
Phoenix, Arizona 85048

Phone: 480-541-5800
Fax: 480-541-5810
Attendance: 480-541-5801

School Hours: 8:20 am - 3:05 pm
Early Dismissal Wed: 1:05 pm

Office Hours: 7:30 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday: 7:30 am - 2:00 pm

Kyrene School District would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Kyrene School District directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: Unsubscribe

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.