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*Kyrene Traditional Academy*



January 23, 2026

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## Message from the Principal

Hello KTA Families and Friends!

Here's hoping this finds you well! We are entering the last week of January...where did this month go? It's been busy at school!

This week, we held another **Elementary Principal's Lunch**, which is always great fun! We get to celebrate students from all classrooms and all grades K-5 who are working hard, meeting goals, showing their 4B skills of respect, responsibility, safety and kindness! Each student receives a special certificate, \$1.00 to the school store, and a special coupon to a restaurant in the community for a kid's meal. Such fun!

Our entire faculty was on hand for our **School Showcase Thursday night**. This was a fun opportunity to share our school and programs with families who wanted information about next year. Many attendees are current 5th grade families who received personalized tours of the MS building and got all their questions answered. We also welcomed some new families to KTA, registering for next year! While we realize that next year will be bittersweet, **we want ALL OF OUR FAMILIES to know that we are going to plan an AMAZING YEAR for 2026-2027!!!** We will continue our amazing programs, and we are working with PTO to add some **new field trips, assemblies and activities!!** We are going to have a **FANTASTIC LEGACY YEAR**, celebrating all that KTA and our **Sureño families** have worked hard to accomplish since the 1980's.....and we are **finishing STRONG!!!!!!** **We are enrolling in ALL grades.....stick with us and call your friends to come to KTA for an UNFORGETTABLE YEAR AHEAD!**

Our staff officially met our principal for next year, Mr. Brian Gibson. It was a lovely opportunity for our staff to welcome him to the KTA community and for him to share his thoughts. We will have some opportunities very soon for our students to meet him and for parents to come to some school events to meet him as well. Watch the newsletter and FB page for info on these dates and times.

**Next week: Students in grades 3-8 will be taking some school surveys**, to gather information about how they feel about school and what we can do to improve KTA. We look forward to sharing this information with you and **if you haven't already given permission in ParentVue for your child to participate, we ask that you do so ASAP!!** We really value and use this information so help us out by giving your permission! Thanks in advance for your support!!!

**Parent Conferences are coming soon! February 4-5-6! PLEASE be sure you have seen your child's teacher's emails about signing up for a time slot!!!** These are essential to support your child's growth and progress in the second half of the school year. Now is the time to set goals for these next months and we need your participation in this process to make it even more meaningful!!!

*Thank you so much for our continued support and collaboration.*

Marianne L. Lescher, Ph.D.



PTO is looking for volunteers for the February Book Fair.

[CLICK HERE](#)

to sign up.

There are daytime and evening spots available. Be sure to scroll down to see all the available openings.

No experience necessary. We will train.

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#### GROUP PICTURE DAYS COMING SOON!

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| January 26 | K - 5 Class Pictures (Uniforms)<br>Individuals - New Students Only |
| January 30 | 8th Grade Group Picture<br>25/26 Spirit Shirt Required             |
| January 30 | Club Pictures<br>Wear Your Club T-Shirt                            |
| February 2 | MS Advisory Class Pictures (Uniforms)                              |



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### EXTRA EARLY RELEASE DAYS FOR PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

February 5 & February 6  
Students will be released at 12:15 p.m

Please be sure to adjust your pick up plans.



### SPRING BOOK FAIR

February 2nd thru 6th

Our biggest Book Fair of the year is just around the corner! Students will have time to shop during the day and the Fair will be open during Conferences!

Set Up an [eWallet](#) today:

Career Day is coming to KTA on Friday, March 6!



We are very excited about this event and are currently looking for members of the KTA family and community to volunteer their time to share their career experiences. The purpose of Career Day is to inform and inspire students and to broaden their horizons by exposing them to a variety of possible career paths. If you are interested, please complete the [Google Form](#); one of our Career Day planners will reach out to you with more information.



**Save the date For our Middle School Musical Singin' in the Rain Jr**

**Auditions:** Tuesday February 17th 2:15-3:30pm  
pick up on Metro Side

No-Cut for ensemble, solo role placement determined by solo audition

**Performances:** Friday April 24th at 6:30pm  
Saturday April 25th at 2pm

Tickets- \$10 premium, \$5 adult, \$3 student

**Rehearsals:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:15- 3:30pm  
School days from February 19th-April 22nd

**Participation fee:** \$45.00 dollars includes script and t-shirt



**AZ529 Art Fest**

The Arizona State Treasurer's Office and AZ529 have launched the 5th annual AZ529 Future Career Art Contest for Arizona students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Students are invited to create artwork that represents their future career and the education needed to achieve it. Fifteen students statewide will be selected, one from each county, with winners receiving \$529 toward a new or existing AZ529 Education Savings Plan and being recognized by Treasurer Kimberly Yee at a ceremony at the State Capitol in February. Entries may be submitted online or by mail beginning January 5 and must be received by February 8, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. MST. Contest details and submission information are available at

<http://www.AZ529.gov/2026artcontest>.



**Mondays**

STEMazing Explorers  
Slime Design Lab

**Tuesdays**

B.O.L.T.S.  
(Building Our Leaders Through Science)

**Wednesdays**

Cartoon Drawing  
S.L.U.G.

**Thursday**

Chess

**Fridays**

Piano

<https://kyrene.arux.app/>



**LOST AND FOUND**

Look at all these amazing jackets and coats!!!!

They don't have names written in them. They are on display in the school Health Office. Please stop by and take a look.

All lost and found will be donated on March 6.

It's Time to Start Thinking about the 2026 KTA Variety Show!

Show Date: Wednesday, April 15  
Audition Date: Tuesday, February 19



Who may audition: Any student at KTA!

What kinds of acts are we looking for:

- Singing
- Dancing
- Playing an instrument
- Gymnastics
- Funny skits
- Magic acts
- Emcees

Permission slips available here ([link to PDF](#)).

Please direct any questions you may have to Becky Bull ([bbull@kyrene.org](mailto:bbull@kyrene.org))

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# CAFÉ ZUPAS

Dine for KTA - Cafe Zupas

Wednesday, February 18

4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

3305 W Chandler Blvd

Chandler, AZ 85226

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**YEARBOOKS NOW AVAILABLE FOR  
PREORDER!!!!**

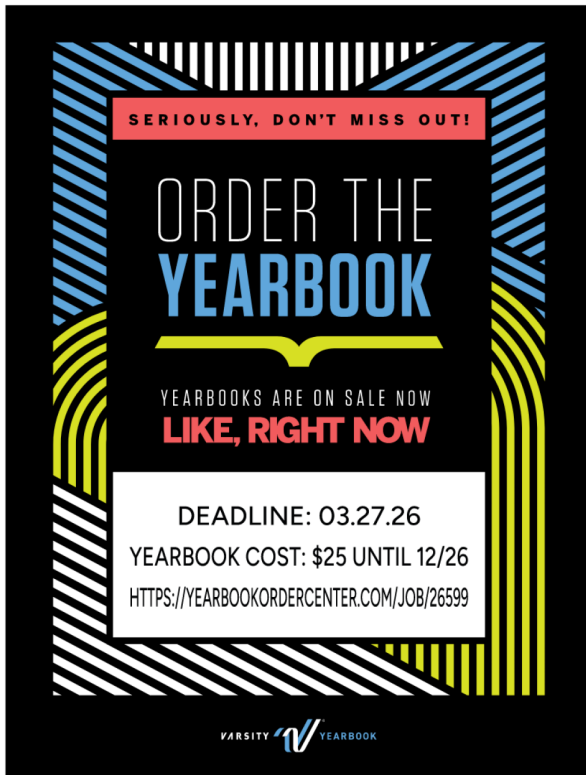
<https://yearbookordercenter.com/job/26599>

\$25

Orders are being processed directly through the yearbook company this year. Please use the above link or QR code.

Orders accepted through March 27? No preorders will be accepted after this date. A small qty of extra yearbooks will be ordered and will be sold on a first come/first served basis.

Yearbooks don't come in until the last weeks of school, but don't miss out....Order your yearbook in advance!!



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### Enrollment Opens in February!

Mark your calendars and set your alarms—enrollment for the upcoming school year will open at 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 3!

Enrollment will be available for new students, change school requests, preschool programs, and before- and after-school programming at [www.kyrene.org/enroll](http://www.kyrene.org/enroll).

Current and prospective families are invited to learn more about Kyrene schools and take virtual tours of each of our campuses by visiting [www.kyrene.org/kyrenekids](http://www.kyrene.org/kyrenekids).



Does anyone else find themselves needing a hard reset, a re-focusing on wellness? You are not alone! January is the time that gyms see the most enrollment and therapists get the most new clients

scheduled. But let's talk about small things that you can do for yourself at home.

Taking care of ourselves, or SELF-CARE is *difficult*. Especially if we have other obligations: family, work, pets, bills, homes – the bare minimum can feel excruciatingly out of reach sometimes, and self-care just adds another thing to the list. But we can re-frame our perspective around taking good, true care of ourselves by remembering that self-care is as simple as self-respect. Going to bed early, saying “no” to that next episode, gazing upon something green and lush instead of a the next Tik Tok or Reel – these are all simple ways we can practice respecting ourselves.

Here are 10 things to help jump start your new year self-care routine:

1. Clear off every surface in your home and wipe it down. Consider this a practice in clearing away mental clutter.
2. Light a [candle](#), burn some incense, or turn on an [essential oil diffuser](#). Surround yourself with scents that evoke a memory or set an uplifting mood.
3. Make a blanket fort with your couch cushions and your kids. Read a book by flashlight under your covers. Remember what it's like to be a kid again.
4. Say no to “just one more episode” and swap in a gentle activity for twenty-five minutes—like stretching, reading, or just a prolonged bedtime routine.
5. Make one thing better about what you already do during the day. For example, if you commute, try switching to what you are listening to. Music if the news is bringing you down, an audiobook, or see what you feel in simple silence.
6. Bake yourself some fresh bread or a yummy dessert. Embrace the slowness of the process, indulge in the physical presence that is required, take in the smell of it while it is cooking. Then enjoy the reward of eating it and sharing it.
7. Plant something—gardening has immense mental and emotional benefits. If you don't have land, nurture a houseplant. If you don't have houseplants, go outside and gently touch the plants on a morning walk. Stop and smell the roses and enjoy the odd stares from passersby.
8. Pause whatever it is that you're doing and drink a glass of water. Keep a full water bottle or cup with you at all times.
9. Take three deep breaths. Breathing is the quickest and easiest way to introduce calmness into our bodies and minds. Try exploring ancient yogic breathing practices and [their many benefits](#).
10. Go for a walk, even if it's just around the block. You can even try a walking meditation online.

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**Jen Woolf, MAS-MFT, LAMFT**  
Certified School Counselor/  
Peer Mediation Coordinator  
Kyrene Traditional Academy  
P: (480) 541- 5549 | E: [jwoolf@kyrene.org](mailto:jwoolf@kyrene.org)

[View Full Calendar](#)

## Upcoming Events

### JANUARY

January 26	K - 5 Class Pictures
January 30	8th Grade Class Picture - Spirit Shirt Required
January 30	Club Pictures

### FEBRUARY:

February 2-6:	PTO Book Fair & Conferences
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February 2: MS Advisory Group Photos  
February 5&6: Early Release  
February 9: PTO Meeting @ 5:30 p.m. in the MPR  
February 16: No School  
February 17: MS Theatre Auditions  
February 17: Kids Heart Challenge Kick Off  
February 18: Cafe Zupas Dine For KTA Night  
February 19: Variety Show Auditions  
February 26: All School \$1 Free Dress  
February 26: Quarter 3 Band Concert  
February 27: World Fair

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



### ***Speak Up Kyrene!***

*Kyrene School District is proud to announce that later this month, we will officially launch Speak Up Kyrene, an anonymous reporting system available 24/7/365.*

*This tool is a partnership with Sandy Hook Promise and Navigate360, and will provide licensed crisis counselors and a safe way for students, families, and community members to share concerns such as bullying or threats. Be on the lookout for an email from the District with more information once the system goes live.*

**KYRENE 2025-26  
SCHOOL YEAR  
PARENT TRAININGS**

# ESS Parent Trainings

**Kyrene School District offers ESS parent trainings.  
All trainings will be held at the District Office from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

February 19, 2026: IEP Training with Encircle Families  
April 1, 2026: Early Childhood Literacy

**And**  
April 22, 2026 ESS Family Resource Fair  
Kyrene del Pueblo Middle School.  
More Information to come!

[CLICK HERE FOR A MORE DETAILED FLYER!](#)

## 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*

*A+ School of Excellence™*



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