



March 2, 2026



Principal's Imprint

Dear Norte Families,

March is here, and with it comes both celebration and anticipation for the exciting months ahead.

First and foremost, thank you. Our students, staff, and community have demonstrated extraordinary dedication and heart, and together we have earned our A+ recognition. This achievement reflects the daily commitment to excellence that lives in every classroom, every partnership, and every moment of learning across our school. I am deeply grateful for the teamwork and belief in our shared vision that made this possible.

As we begin Quarter 4, we enter the final stretch of the school year with focus and determination. This last quarter is an important time for growth, goal-setting, and finishing strong. Our teachers continue to challenge and support students to reach their fullest potential, and our students continue to rise to the occasion.

We are also looking forward to our Field Day on March 6 — a favorite tradition filled with energy, teamwork, and school spirit. We hope

students come ready to participate, encourage one another, and enjoy a day of fun together.



Spring Break is just around the corner. I wish all of our families a safe, restful, and joyful time away. We hope students return refreshed and ready for a strong finish to the year.

Finally, I want to offer special encouragement to our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students. As we move into April, state assessments will provide an opportunity for them to demonstrate the learning and perseverance they have shown all year long. We are proud of their effort, resilience, and growth, and we will continue to support them every step of the way.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for being such an important part of our Norte community. Together, we make a difference every single day.

Sincerely,

Jaime Soto

Principal

Kyrene del Norte Dual Language Academy



NO School

March 7th - March 23rd

Returning on Tuesday March 24th

SPRING
BREAK



[kyrene.org/taxcredit]



**Support
Our School!**

Tax Credit Donations

**Your donation directly
supports Kyrene students!**

- ☒ Educational field trips
- ☒ School programs
- ☒ Extracurricular clubs
- ☒ And so much more!

DONATE



**Donate up to \$200 for individuals
and \$400 when filing jointly.**

Learn more at kyrene.org/taxcredit

Kyrene School District Resource Fair

Join us for an enriching experience tailored to families navigating the journey of raising children with disabilities. Kyrene School District's Exceptional Student Services team invites you to our Resource Fair, an opportunity for families to discover local resources and create connections in the community.

WHEN: Wednesday, April 22

TIME: 4:30-6:00 pm

WHERE: Kyrene del Pueblo Middle School

ATTEND THE KYRENE RESOURCE FAIR

Join us for an enriching experience tailored to families navigating the journey of raising children with disabilities. Kyrene School District's Exceptional Student Services team invites you to our Resource Fair, an opportunity for families to discover local resources and create connections in the community.

Gain insights, strategies, and valuable information from experts in a variety of fields involved with raising children with special needs.

Engage in one-on-one conversations with resource providers to address your family's unique needs and concerns.

Gather informational flyers, brochures and contacts to support your family.

Wednesday, April 22 **From 4:30-6:00 p.m.**

Kyrene del Pueblo Middle School
360 S. Twelve Oaks Boulevard, Chandler, AZ 85226

WHO WILL BE THERE?

AHCCCS	Higher Octave Healing	The Miracle League
ASU SPELL Program	Hope Group	The Suzy Foundation
AzTAP	Kyrene Resource Center	YMCA
B Noelle Foundation	Mariposa Therapy	Out and About
Care for Caregivers	Mountain Park Health Center	Absolute HCBS
Chicanos Por La Causa	Phoenix Adaptive Rec	Kyrene Related Service Providers
Disability Rights Arizona	Phoenix Public Library/Ironwood	DES Child and Community Services
Duet (Grandparents Raising Grandchildren)	Ryan House	DDD
Encircle Families	Southwest Network	Inspire Services
Gompers	Tempe Adaptive Recreation	AND MANY MORE!

KyreneSchoolDistrict



WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads Of Great Students) is an innovative father (father-figure) involvement, educational initiative of the National Center For Fathering. At Norte, we believe that having a positive role model on campus makes a big difference not only in your child's life, but that of other students. By simply being present and visible, Watch DOGS show all students that education is important while enhancing school security and reducing bullying.

For more information on the national program: [WATCH D.O.G.S.](#)

For questions or information, contact [Mr. Vasquez](#)
[Sign up for Watch D.O.G.S.](#)



Kyrene Family Resource Center - *Serving our Community!*

The Kyrene Family Resource Center supports basic needs in order for all Kyrene students to achieve their maximum potential.

Kyrene families and employees are welcome to receive support with immediate needs, including: food, gently used school clothing, hygiene supplies, school supplies, and connections to outside agencies and resources.

The Kyrene Family Resource Center strives to support Kyrene students with basic needs to help students achieve their best in school!

For the most up-to-date information, please visit us on [Facebook](#)

Kyrene Registration Open for New Families/Students



Registration is open for all New student or current student school change requests. New to Kindergarten families and NEW to Norte families can [enroll HERE.](#)

Any school change requests can be done at this time as well. Please let the front office know right away if your student is not going to attend Kyrene del Norte next year for Kinder-5th.

Screenings for early entrance to kindergarten for the 2026-2027 school year will take place on June 1, 2026 and June 2, 2026. Please review the [steps HERE for our entire Early Entrance Process.](#)



KINDER ROUND UP

5:00-6:30pm

Connect with other Norte parents and incoming kindergarteners. Help us get to know your incoming kindergartener! There will be activity centers and pizza!



Meet other
parents



Get your questions
answered



Kids assessed for
placement

Wednesday
8 April 2026

Contact Us:
480-541-4800

Location:
1331 E Redfield Rd.
Tempe, AZ 85283

Staff Spotlights

Grisel Phillips | 2nd Grade Spanish Teacher

How long have you been in education?

This is my 19th year in education and 11th year at Norte.

What inspired you to work in education?

What inspired me to work in a school setting is my belief that educators have the power to positively impact students' lives in meaningful and lasting ways. Teaching is more than delivering a curriculum; it's about building genuine connections with students and creating a safe, supportive environment where they feel seen and valued. I strive to model kindness, encourage empathy, and help students believe in themselves by building their confidence each day. Knowing I can play a role in helping students grow not only academically, but also socially and emotionally, is what drives my passion for education.



What do you love most about your job?

What I love most about my job is the daily opportunity to connect with students and make a difference in their lives. The small moments—when a student gains confidence, shows kindness to a classmate, or realizes they are capable of more than they thought—are what make this work so rewarding.

Any special achievements, certifications, or roles you'd like highlighted?

Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Science in Education;
Structured English Immersion (SEI) PreK-12; Spanish Approved
Subject Area

Where are you from originally?

Xalapa, Veracruz, México.

What do you enjoy doing outside of work?

Outside of work, I enjoy watching movies, dancing, listening to music, and going shopping. I value giving back and am always looking for opportunities to serve others.

Fun facts, hobbies, or something most people don't know about you?

When I first started working with Kyrene, my name was Grisel Trujillo Landa. Some people don't know that, so when former students visit the school, they still call me "Maestra Trujillo," and my current students are always surprised and say, "Wait—she's Maestra Phillips?!"

Favorite quote or motto?

"I want to be the person who helps students believe in themselves, one small moment at a time."
- Pernille Ripp

Melissa Walton | Secretary / Administrative Asst.**How long have you been working in education?**

I have been in educational work for 12 year. This is my 2nd year at Norte and in an elementary school setting.

What inspired you to work in education?

I really enjoy being part of a great community that serves children. Public education work is a way for me to give back to the community that I am a part of.

What do you love most about your job?

I love the variety of work every day and connecting with the staff, parents and students. Everyone has something unique to bring to the team or to our school family and I really enjoy getting to know everyone.

Any special achievements, certifications, or roles you'd like highlighted?

I was honored to receive Key to Kyrene award for Collaboration and Connection in Q4 of 2024-25 school year.

Where are you from originally?

I am originally from Kansas City area, but have been in Arizona for over 22 years

What do you enjoy doing outside of work?

I love building things like treehouses, shelves, tables and other woodworking projects. I like camping and hiking with my kids and LOVE doing various art projects with them as well.

Fun facts, hobbies, or something most people don't know about you?

I was a photographer for over 15 years and bowled on the Kansas University bowling team for scholarship money in college. I was also a foreign exchange student in Germany for 2 months when I was in High School. I love traveling!

Favorite quote or motto?

"Hard work beats talent" - Tim Notke &



"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better." - Maya Angelou



CONGRATULATIONS to the Student of the Month nominees for February!

Kindergarten: Lucy Wasneski, Daejah Barajas, Dayana Manson, Nova Supernaut

1st Grade: Elias Smith, Victoria Roque, Jackson Grothman, Diego Wirichaga

2nd Grade: Alara Minior, Ava Ericksen, Clarissa Ghorzi, Torri Paley, Benny Rosario, Carlos Mendivil Madrid

3rd Grade: Emmett Hogan, Lola Daiutolo, Knox Loring

4th Grade: Santiago Sailors, Minka Suarez, Quinton Shilinger

5th Grade: Kayleigh Bristol-Hernandez, Andres Gudino, Adam Huitron Nunez



February Perfect Attendance Challenge

For the month of February, we had our Q3 Perfect Attendance challenge and **144 students** earned the award. This month prize is a certificate to a Free D-Backs Game! ***Congratulations!!!!***

Other months for Perfect Attendance Awards will be (one per quarter):

April - this will be a classroom challenge



Kyrene SUPER STUDENTS February 2026

Congratulations Norte Students!!!!

Jasmine S. - 5th grade

Calan L. - 1st grade



Congratulations to this year's school poetry winners!
Norte has great poets! Best of luck at the district level competition.

Sra. De La Cruz (K)
Math by Oliver R.

Ms. Speir (1st)
My Pet Parrot by Julian R.

Mrs. Escalante (2nd)
Trail of Tears by Clarissa G.

Mrs. Gayosso (3rd)
Cats by Lucia K.

Mrs. Covarrubias (4th)
I Hear Norte Singing by Giana N.

Mrs. Salas Murphy (5th)
I Am Like the Wind
Theodore H.



It is that time of the year again.... Cold/Flu season.

Help protect your family by sticking to these healthy habits:

1. Wash hands constantly
2. Get plenty of sleep
3. Have good nutrition
4. Keep up the hydration
5. Exercise regularly (screen-free)



Too sick for school?

Regular attendance is important for your child's well-being and learning. This guide can help you determine when to keep your child home and when to send them to school.



Send me to school if...

- I have a runny nose or mild cough, but **no** other symptoms.
- I have a mild rash but no other symptoms.
- I have only a mild stomachache.
- I have eye drainage but no fever, eye pain or redness.
- I haven't had a fever or taken any fever-reducing medicine for 24 hours.
- I haven't thrown up or had diarrhea for 24 hours.



Keep me at home if...

- I have a temperature higher than 100.4 degrees.
- I'm throwing up or have diarrhea.
- My eyes are pink and crusty.



Call the doctor if...

- I've had a temperature higher than 100.4 degrees for 2+ days or a fever combined with: **ear pain, sore throat, rash, cough, stomachache or headache.**
- I've been throwing up or have had diarrhea for more than two days.
- I've had the sniffles for more than a week, and they aren't getting better.
- I have any uncommon symptoms such as eye swelling or a rash with blisters.



If you have specific concerns regarding your child's health or are worried your child will spread illness, contact your health care provider. This guide does not take the place of county or school district health guidance regarding respiratory viruses or other contagious illnesses.

School Times & Attendance Information

Playground opens: 8:40AM
First Bell Rings: 9:05AM
School Begins: 9:10 AM

Students dropped off after 9:10AM need to be signed in at the front office.

ATTENDANCE LINE: 480.541.4801
The attendance line is open 24/7

Parents/guardians are required to call the attendance line day their child is absent, indicating the student's name, grade, and there must be a reason for the absence.

Please call before 8:30 AM to ensure the student is accounted for.

For student safety, it is essential that we verify that you are aware that they are not in school. For extended absences, administration approval is needed.

School attendance is not only a good habit, but state law requires it.

To keep families informed regarding their student's attendance, letters will be sent to families when a child has been absent 4 days, 8, days, 13 days, and when a student has reached chronic absenteeism which is more than 18 absences.

NOTE: *Due to the busy end-of-day activity in the office, we request that all students being checked out early, be done so at least 20 minutes before the end of the school day.*



NEW!! In addition to calling in an absence on the attendance line, you can now report your child's absence through ParentVue by following these steps:

1. Log int ParentVUE
2. Click the Report Absence button
3. Enter Absence Information
4. Click Save to submit to the attendance office.



The Norte Running Club meets every Tuesday and Thursday @ 8:40m before the start of the school day in the 2nd and 3rd Quarters. Open to ALL students. *Need volunteers each morning on Tuesdays and Thursdays.*

***Awards ceremony
Friday March 27th
at 9:30 am***

[Running Club Page](#)



Drama Club is open to 4th and 5th grade students. Rehearsals are mornings before school.

We performed "Mary Poppins" this year and it was incredibly fun, challenging and rewarding. Join us again next year!

[Drama Club Page](#)



Voice of a Norte Student Running Club

How long have you been in Running Club?

"I started in Kindergarten".

Why do you like being in Running Club?

"If I'm tired, I get lots of energy pumped back in me."

Anything else you would like to share about your experiences in Running Club?

"I like Running Club because I get to run with my brother."



Cora Hill, 3rd grade



Voice of a Norte Student Running Club

How long have you been in Running Club?

"I have been in Running Club since the 1st grade".

Why do you like being in Running Club?

"The first year I did it for fun. Then my parents set goals for me and I like working towards achieving them."

Anything else you would like to share about your experiences in Running Club?

"In third grade, I placed first for my grade level. Now I like to run to be with my friends."



Theo Hill, 5th grade



Norte News



Norte News is open to 4th and 5th grade students. Each year, a team of students work together to write, produce, and present daily announcements for Kyrene del Norte.

[Norte News Page](#)



UNEARTHED

First Lego League has begun and is open to 4th & 5th graders only. Meeting on Mondays through November.

The final meeting was December 8th with a Family Showcase.

[First Lego League page](#)



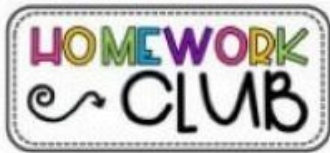
Student Council is a leadership club where students work together to make a positive impact on our school and community.

March 2 - 6 is our Spirit Week for Read Across America! Have fun showing your school spirit!

[Student Council Page](#)



NEW ANNOUNCEMENT!! Homework Club will NOT meet on Wednesdays going forward. It is available on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings only.



The Norte Homework Club is open to ALL Students. This is offered before school from 8:30am - 9:00am for any student that needs a little help or extra time with homework. Check in the front office any morning.





NEW ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

Starting **Wednesday, Nov. 5th** parents that would like to learn Spanish can now attend our Wednesday morning **Parent Spanish Class from 8:40am - 9:30am!**

All Parents welcome! Simply check in and show your ID at the front office for a visitor badge.

No registration necessary. Open every Wednesday that school is in session, unless otherwise noted.

A partir del miércoles 5 de noviembre, todos los padres que deseen aprender español podrán asistir a nuestra clase de español, sera todos los miércoles por la mañana de 8:40 a 9:30am

No es necesario registrarse. Solo tienen que venir a la oficina de Norte y recibir una etiqueta de visitante. La clase sera todos los miércoles hasta fin del año.

Upcoming Dates

MARCH 3 - 6: National School Breakfast Week - Lucky Tray

MAR 6: Field Day / End of Q3

MAR 7 - 23: **NO School - Spring Break**

MAR 24: Start of Q4 - full day of learning

MAR 27: Running Club Awards Assembly 9:30am

MAR 31: NNO @ Jeremiah's Italian Ice

APR 1: PTO Appreciation Event - 5-7pm (Library)
Lunch Hero Day

APR 3: **Friday Early Release** at 1:55pm

APR 3: Librarian Appreciation Day

APRIL 6 - 10: **Asst. Principal Week**

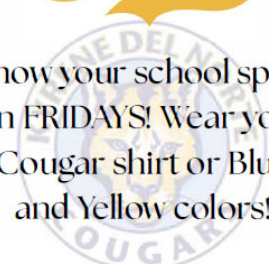
APR 8: New 2026-27 Kindergarten Round-Up
5pm - 6:30 pm in MPR

APR 16: PTO General Meeting Q4 (4:30pm)

APR 17: PNO (Run Errands) 6-9pm
Yearbook ordering deadline



Show your school spirit
on FRIDAYS! Wear your
Cougar shirt or Blue
and Yellow colors!



Food Services

In addition to InTouch Receipting and cash/check payments, families may now use **LINQ Connect**—a website and mobile app that allows instant deposits, spending limits, alerts, sibling transfers, and more.

Learn more at the [Food Services webpage](#).

Lunch Menus
Lunch Payments
Lunch Balances
Apply for Free and Reduced Meals
FAQs

ParentVue NEW - Must complete forms

APR 22: Admin. Assistant Day

APR 24: KMS Rally Day (5th grade)

APR 24: Spring Fling @ 5:30pm

APR 27: April Student of the Month @ 9:30am

APR 28: Bus Drive Appreciation Day

APR 30: Norte University Registration Day

Each year, families are asked to review and acknowledge important information, including contact/emergency details, district policies, and survey preferences.

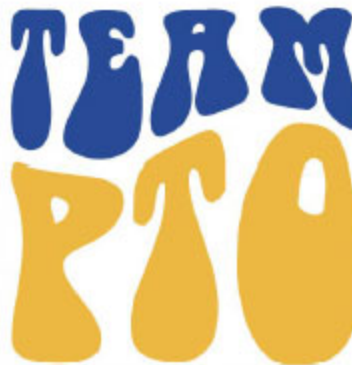
This information is now available in [ParentVUE](#) for your review. Please log into your account and complete this process. *If your Emergency Contact form has not been submitted for the 25-26 school year, you will not be able to move on to register for the 26-27 school year.*

[View Full Calendar](#)

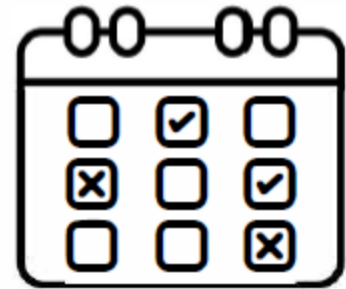
[Parent Resource Link](#)

Important: Sign up for Text Messages!

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 our school and Kyrene School District.



Click for PTO
Membership page



Click for PTO
Calendar

Yearbook Orders Due April 17th

KYRENE DEL NORTE

★ 25/26 ★

YEARBOOK
ON SALE NOW!



\$25

SCAN TO CREATE
YOUR ACCOUNT



• NEW YEARBOOK COMPANY -
TREERING

- DESIGN 2 CUSTOM PAGES
FOR FREE BY MARCH 18
- UPLOAD PICTURES
DIRECTLY TO SITE
- PURCHASE YEARBOOKS
DIRECTLY FROM SITE
- ORDER YEARBOOKS AFTER
APRIL 29TH DEADLINE -
JUST PAY SHIPPING

Show Your Spirit!




Order Now At
Communityapparelco.com






Volunteers

Process for Volunteer -- Parent or Guardian of Student in Class/Program:

Time: Once per year, prior to the start of the volunteer service

Process:

- A. Complete the [Volunteer Information Form](#)
- B. If you have children attending more than one school and plan to volunteer at each, inform the

school staff, who will assist in sharing the information contained on the form.
C. If you would like to volunteer for an overnight event, refer to the process below.

Kyrene School District recognizes the role of Step-Parents and, unless notified of the contrary, will afford them the same volunteer opportunities.

Process for Volunteer - Non Parent/Guardian or Parent/Guardian Attending Overnight Event

Time: Once per year, prior to the start of the volunteer service

Process:

A. Obtain an IVP Card

Volunteers without an IVP Card have two options:

1. Contact the Principal of the school or Sponsor of the overnight activity to determine if there are school or activity funds to cover the cost (\$75) of your IVP card. Schools have limited funds available for this purpose and may choose to approve the funds based on need of the site or program.
2. Obtain an IVP card as an individual.
 - This option is viable for volunteers who may need an IVP card for other purposes or who wish to volunteer at multiple sites and/or throughout their students' school attendance;
 - The card is valid for six years and is the property of the individual.



Transportation

Kyrene School District is rolling out a new bus tracking app! This free app lets you track your child's bus in real time, set up arrival/departure alerts, and message the Transportation team. Families should have received an invitation in July to register. (The app won't work without it!)

Download Stopfinder on the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

Check your contact info in ParentVUE. Didn't get the invite?

Contact Transportation at www.kyrene.org/asktransportation.



The Kyrene Governing Board established a Long-Range Planning Committee to address enrollment trends and maximize the use of facilities. On December 16th the school board voted to close 6 schools over the next 2 years. Details can be found on the [Kyrene Website for "Kyrene Forward"](#)

We are focused on our mission, keeping our community strong and the education of all students in our dual language program. The Kyrene Governing Board's decision impacts Norte in the 2026-27 school year by moving our school to not having attendance boundaries. This means all current and future students will be categorized as open-enrollment students. We will have more information in the coming months for those families that could be affected as bus transportation will not be provided.

Contact Us

Kyrene del Norte
1331 E. Redfield Rd.
Tempe, AZ 85283

Phone: 480-541-4800
Fax: 480-541-4810
Attendance: 480-541-4801

School Hours: 9:10 am - 3:55 pm
Early Release Wednesday: 1:55 pm

Office Hours: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Every Wednesday at 2:30 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.