Kyrene de la Mirada - Leadership Academy

MIRADA NEWS

March 2026

A Message from Mrs. Anderson

Hello, March!

With spring break approaching, we are preparing for the final quarter of the 2025-2026 school year!

Students in grades 3–5 will begin the Arizona State Assessment during the week of March 30. To help prevent learning loss over spring break, we encourage your child to complete 1–2 lessons on iReady each week and spend at least 45 minutes per week on Amplify. These programs provide personalized learning paths based on your child's individual needs and can adjust to either support or challenge them as needed. If you have any questions about these programs, please feel free to contact me.

As tax season approaches, please consider making a tax credit donation to our school. These contributions directly support valuable student activities such as Mirada Players, Mirada Melody Makers, and Girls on the Run, helping provide enriching opportunities for our students.

March will go by quickly, so please keep an eye on the upcoming events.

We wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable spring break!

Best regards,
Michelle Anderson

Upcoming Events

March 6	Field Day
	3rd-5th Grades 8:00-9:36am
	K-2nd Grades 12:30-1:30pm
March 9-20	Spring Break
March 23	Teacher Work Day--No students
March 24	4th Quarter Begins-Students return to school
March 26	PTO Meeting 2:45pm in the Media Center
	Meet and Greet at Whole Foods on Ray and I-10
March 27	Movie Night-See below
March 30	AASA Testing begins
April 3	Friday Early Release at 12:15pm
April 9	Mirada Players Performance Cast A in the MPR 6-7pm
April 10	Mirada Players Performance Cast B in the MPR 6-7pm
April 24	MML Awards
	7:40-8:20 Kindergarten, 2nd and 3rd Grades
	8:30-9:10 1st, 4th and 5th Grades

Click Below for Important Calendars

District Calendar | School Calendar | PTO Calendar

Dear Third, Fourth, and Fifth Grade Families,

Mirada third, fourth, and fifth grade students will take Arizona's Academic Standards Assessment (AASA) and fifth graders will also take the AZ Science Assessment between the dates of Monday, March 30th and Friday, April 17th.

Please make note of the following specific testing dates to ***avoid scheduling any appointments for your child(ren) during these days.*** *It is important for your child to be in attendance. However, it is more important that they are well and fever free. If you find your child has any symptoms that would not allow for them to come to school for the day, please make sure to call the attendance line at 480-541-4201 and report his or her absence. If your child begins the test, then becomes ill or exhibits symptoms that require them to be sent home, they will not be able to complete that section or retake that section. During testing days, students in grades 3- 5 who arrive late will not be able to enter the classroom while testing is in progress; they will wait in the office and complete the test on a make-up day.*

If you have any questions about state assessments please email your child's teacher and/or Mrs. Adey, Asst. Principal, at radey@kyrene.org.

STATE TEST SCHEDULE 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
30 AzSci 5th Grade Only Parts 1 and 2	31 AzSci 5Th Grade Only Part 3	1	2 Grades 3,4,5 Writing	3 ORF Testing 3rd Grade Only
6 ORF Testing 3rd Grade Only	7 Grades 3,4,5 Reading Part 1	8	9 Grades 3,4,5 Reading Part 2	10
13	14 Grades 3,4,5 Math Part 1	15	16 Grades 3,4,5 Math Part 2	17 Make Up Testing
20 Make Up Testing	21 Make Up Testing	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

Field Day

Friday, March 6th
8:00-9:36 • 3rd-5th grades
12:30-1:30 • K-2nd grades

Mirada Families,

We are very excited for our upcoming Field Day, where students showcase skills that they have learned during physical education! Field Day gives students an opportunity to celebrate being active and demonstrate sportsmanship in a variety of activities and games.

Student Reminders for field day:

- Shorts or athletic clothing
- Tennis Shoes
- Hat (outside during field day)
- Water Bottle w/name on it
- Sunglasses
- Put on Sunscreen
- Good Sportsmanship
- Have FUN!



Field Day is made up of various activity stations that each class will rotate through. For the day to be a success, we need volunteers to be station leaders! Your responsibilities would include organizing students, presenting the station directions, and supervising safe play. Teachers will be present as students participate.

If you are interested in volunteering, please click the appropriate link below to sign up.

Volunteers for 3rd-5th Grade Field Day

Volunteers for K-2nd Grade Field Day

Feel free to come watch, support, and cheer on your children! If you are not volunteering, but are coming to watch, you must bring a photo I.D. and check in at the entrance gate.

Thank you for your support in making this event a success! Please contact me with any questions at vdurazo@kyrene.org.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Durazo
Physical Education Teacher

Field Day
Volunteer for Grades 3-5th
8:00-9:36am

We are still in need of volunteers for tomorrow!

Field Day
Volunteer for Grades K-2nd
12:30-1:30pm

EARLY RELEASE on all Wednesdays

Students will be released at 12:15pm.



March 4th and 25th

Please note

Friday, April 3rd is a special

Early Release Day



Check Lost and Found during Field Day

Please take a few moments to check out our Lost and Found items while you are here for Field Day. We are accumulating many, many items that will be donated to the Kyrene Resource Center if they remain unclaimed. Please also take a few moments to LABEL ALL sweaters, jackets, lunchboxes, water bottles, etc. We have a very diligent Tidy Team that does their best to reunite lost items if they are labeled.

Enrollment 2026-2027

New Enrollments and Change School Requests

Please be sure you are enrolling for the next school year. We are still enrolling students for the current school year.

Be prepared to **submit required documents to the school within 10 days** of notification of acceptance.

You will need to present:

1. Child's original or certified birth certificate
2. Immunization records
3. Proof of residency
4. Photo ID of parent/guardian
5. Court documents (as necessary)
6. IEP/504/other school records (as necessary)

February 3rd

Current Fifth Graders

All Mirada fifth graders will automatically enroll at Pueblo MS. No action is required for enrollment to Pueblo even if you are an Open Enrollment Family here at Mirada.

You must do a School Change Request in Parent Vue to request enrollment at a Kyrene middle school *other than Pueblo*. This is true even if that school is your home school.

Priority will be given to current Kyrene families that apply during the first enrollment window February 3-9.

Current Open Enrollment Students

All current Open Enrollment students in good standing will remain enrolled at Mirada. No action is necessary if you wish to remain at Mirada.

Important to Know

- **Please check your Parent Vue accounts. If you have any pending registrations/updates OR you have not completed your Health and Emergency card or Acknowledgements you will not be able to move forward.**
- Enroll as soon as possible.
- **Priority will be given to current Kyrene families that apply during the first enrollment window February 3-9.**
- Be sure you are enrolling for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Once your application is approved, the registrar will contact you via email or phone within 48 hours to request your documents and finalize enrollment.
- You will have 10 days to present necessary document to complete your enrollment.
- See Kyrene district website for more info www.kyrene.org/about-kyrene/enrollmentregistration



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 7: SHARPEN THE SAW

READ BELOW FOR PARENT TIPS ABOUT HABIT 7!

WHAT IS HABIT 7?

HABIT 7 IS THE HABIT OF TAKING CARE OF YOUR BODY BY EATING RIGHT, EXERCISING, AND GETTING THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF SLEEP. IT'S THE HABIT OF SPENDING TIME WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS; TO LEARN IN LOTS OF WAYS AND LOTS OF PLACES, NOT JUST AT SCHOOL. THE HABIT IS ABOUT TAKING THE TIME TO FIND MEANINGFUL WAYS TO HELP OTHERS.

IN A NUTSHELL, HABIT 7 IS ABOUT TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF.

HELPING YOUR CHILD

- TAKE TIME FOR FUN ACTIVITIES
- SET ASIDE ONE-ON-ONE TIME
- GIVE THEM TIME TO RELAX
- EAT MEALS TOGETHER
- FILL THEIR EMOTIONAL BANK ACCCOUNT
- CREATE FAMILY TRADITIONS



IDEAS TO SHARPEN YOUR SAW

- JOURNAL
- EXERCISE
- MEDITATE
- READ
- GRAB LUNCH WITH A FRIEND
- LEARN A NEW SKILL
- DO A PUZZLE



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO "SHARPEN THE SAW"

- "SHARPENING THE SAW" IS SYNONYMOUS WITH "SELF-CARE" OR "SELF-RENEWAL."
- IT TAKES LONGER TO CUT DOWN A TREE WITH A DULL BLADE.
- TAKE A BREAK AND DO WHAT IS NECESSARY TO MAKE THE JOB EASIER.

BALANCE FEELS BEST

"I TAKE CARE OF MY BODY BY EATING RIGHT, EXERCISING AND GETTING SLEEP. I SPEND TIME WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS. I LEARN IN LOTS OF WAYS AND LOTS OF PLACES, NOT JUST AT SCHOOL. I FIND MEANINGFUL WAYS TO HELP OTHERS."

VIDEO LINK TO HABIT 7 STORY BOOK



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.

PTO Corner



Yearbooks

The deadline to order a yearbook is April 16th. Yearbooks can be purchased at the following link: Buy your yearbook here. We try and order a few extra to sell at the end of the year but pre-ordering guarantees that your chiild will get one.

5th Grade Tributes

Fifth Grade Tribute sales end March 21st! Tributes can be purchased through the link above. just purchase an ad along with your yearbook. You do not need to finish your tribute at time of purchase, you can go back and complete it later. Completed tributes are due on April 5th.

Special Person's Day was a huge success! We loved seeing the bright, smiling faces of the kids showing their school to the special people in their lives.



Upcoming Events

- 3/6 Field Day, 3-5 8:00-9:36, K-2 12:30-1:30
- 3/9-3/23 Spring Break
- 3/26 PTO Meeting 2:45pm in the library
- 3/26 PTO Mixer at Whole Foods on Ray and I-10
- 3/27 Movie Night
- 3/30 State Testing begins

Movie Night

Movie Night is March 27th! The kids chose the movie this year and the results are in. This year we will be watching Zootopia 2! Gates open at 6:15 and the movie will start at sundown. There will be a taco vendor, a hot dog vendor, the Little Ice Cream Truck and PTO will be selling Zzeeks pizzas by the slice. If you are interested in pre ordering a whole Zzeeks pizza please scan the QR code to fill out the preorder form. Please remember that all students must be accompanied by an adult.

Zzeeks Whole Pizza Pre-Order

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





[Yearbook Flyer]

[Yearbook Sales Link]

[Join the PTO Contact List]



Tax Credits - It's a Win-Win!

Our learning is enhanced thanks to you!

Tax credit donations provide countless opportunities for students to discover new passions. Your tax credit donations can help preserve robust arts and music programs, increase field trip opportunities, fund guest speakers, and so much more!

All of these programs help Mirada Leadership Academy develop well-rounded students, who in turn, build strong communities. Arizona statute allows individuals/couples to donate $200/$400 for a dollar-to-dollar tax credit. The deadline for tax credit donations is April 15, 2026. You can donate online through our Payment Portal. Thank you for your continued support!

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL WITH A TAX CREDIT DONATION!

STEP 1

Visit kyrene.org/taxcredit and click Donate Now

STEP 2

Sign In

Returning Users

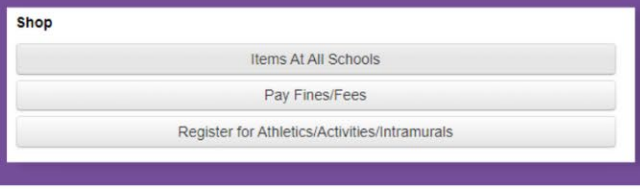


New Users



STEP 3

Select *Items at All Schools*



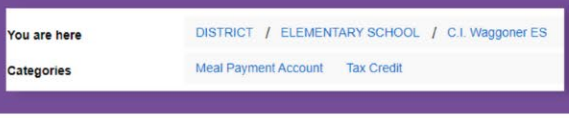
STEP 4

Select Campus Type



STEP 5

Select *School* and *Tax Credit*



ESS 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.

Wednesday, April 22

4:30-6:00 pm

Kyrene del Pueblo Middle School

ESS Resource Fair Flyer

Positive Parenting Series
KYRENE SCHOOL DISTRICT



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.

March 2026

Mar. 25 - Emotional Agility

Emotional Agility

Emotional agility is about moving forward guided by your values, even in the face of stress, frustration, or discomfort. In this session, parents and caregivers will learn how to model this skill for their children by showing that all emotions are valid signals, but they don't have to control our choices. Together, we'll practice simple strategies to help families stay connected, resilient, and values-driven in everyday moments.

Presenter: Gena Goolsby

Date and Time:

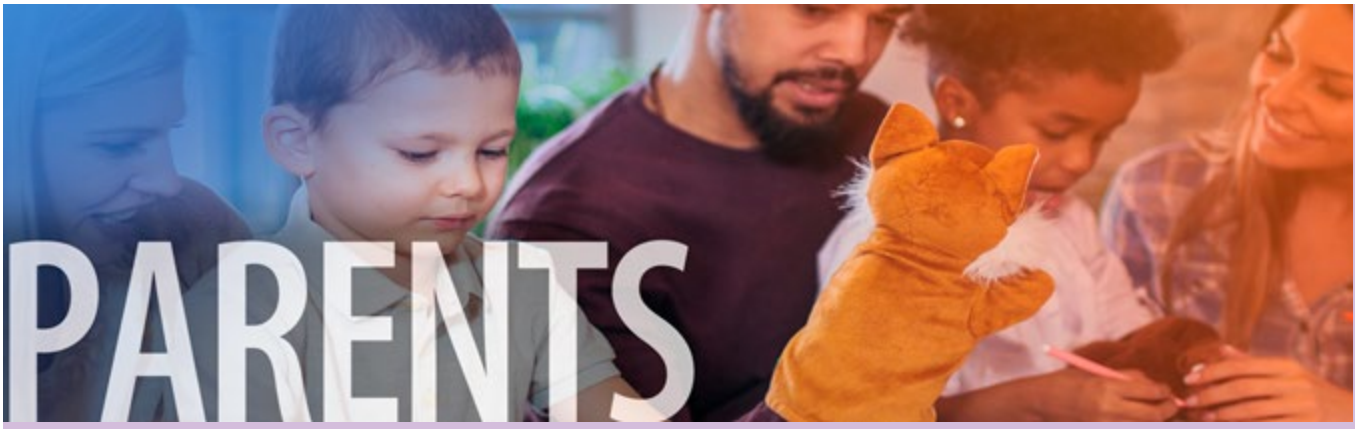
March 25, 2026

6:00PM-7:00pm

Registration/Zoom Link



Emotional Agility
Registration/Zoom Link



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 or in ParentVue.**

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]

- **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

Quicklinks

Food Services and Menu
ParentVUE
StudentVUE
Technology Assistance
Family Handbook

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

Attendance: 480-541-4201

Health Office: 480-541-4220

Cafeteria: 480-541-4226

Kids Club: 480-541-4230