



May 2026

Message from the Principal

Important Dates:

May 4-8th: Teacher Appreciation Week

May 4-15th: End of Year Testing; DIBELS, NWEA, iReady Math

May 5th: Childsplay performance for grades 2,3,4 in MPR

May 11-15: Scholastic Book Fair (open during lunch recesses)

May 13th: Kinder Visit Day 10:00-11:00 for incoming registered kindergarteners

May 19th: Yearbook Signing Party at Peter Piper Pizza 5:00-7:00

May 21st: 5th Grade Show at 6:30 pm

May 22nd: Kindergarten show at 8:30 am for parents

May 25th: No School/Memorial Day

May 27th: No early release & Senior Grad Walk at 12:45

May 28th: Last day of school; 5th grade clap-out at 11:45

Teacher & Staff Changes: Each new school year brings natural changes to school communities, and the 2026–2027 school year at Cielo will be no exception. We will be experiencing several updates within our teaching staff and administration team. While change can be bittersweet, it also brings new opportunities for growth, fresh perspectives, and continued excellence in supporting our students.

Becky Minarcik, our assistant principal, is being transferred to Esperanza. She is being assigned there to help with the merger of Colina and Esperanza.

Please help us welcome Stephanie Yorio as our new assistant principal. Stephanie has been the assistant principal at Paloma this year. She was formerly an art teacher and has been in Kyrene for 27 years.

Congratulations to the following teachers who are retiring; Kathy Cota, Natalie Richardson and Maureen Sousae.

Lex Tobias is being transferred over to Pueblo Middle School. We wish him the best at his new school.

New Preschool Classrooms: We are excited to share that Cielo will expand to **7** preschool classrooms next year. This growth reflects the strength of our program, and the trust families place in our school. With this expansion, we are proud to welcome new teachers, support staff, and families into our community.

As we welcome these new families, we will also be making some adjustments to our arrival and dismissal procedures to ensure safety and efficiency for everyone. This will include designated and reserved parking spaces for preschool families. Because preschool students must be signed in and out each day, families will be required to park and walk their child to the gate or classroom door during both arrival and dismissal.

We appreciate your cooperation as we implement these updates and look forward to a smooth and successful school year together.

Annual Grad Walk: Spread the word to any graduating seniors:

A blue poster for the Grad Walk 2026. It features a large white 'Grad Walk' and '2026' in a stylized font. Below this, it says 'Congratulations! We can't wait to celebrate you. Please spread the word to your Cielo & Aprende friends!'. There is a yellow button that says 'Dress Code Cap and Gown'. At the bottom left, it says 'RSVP Mrs. Plenn @ dplenn@kyrene.org'. On the right, there are two circular photos: one of a group of students in orange gowns and another of a school sign. Above the photos are logos for Cielo (a bird) and Aprende (a leopard head). The date 'Wednesday, May 27th 2026' is listed. Below the date, it says 'Cielo Elementary Check In @ 12:30pm in front of the school. Walk starts @12:45pm.' and 'Aprende Middle School Check In @ 1:45pm in front of the school. Walk starts at 2:00pm.'.

**Grad Walk
2026**

Congratulations! We can't wait to celebrate you. Please spread the word to your Cielo & Aprende friends!

**Dress Code
Cap and Gown**

**RSVP
Mrs. Plenn @
dplenn@kyrene.org**

**Wednesday,
May 27th 2026**

Cielo Elementary
⌚ Check In @ 12:30pm in front of the school. Walk starts @12:45pm.

Aprende Middle School
⌚ Check In @ 1:45pm in front of the school. Walk starts at 2:00pm.



Are you NOT returning to Cielo for the 2026-27 School Year

Please notify the front office if you will not be returning to Cielo for the 2026-27 school year. This is for all students Preschool to 4th grade students.

Parents of 5th graders, if your student will not be attending Aprende you will need to withdraw from Cielo.

Stop by the front office there is paperwork for you to sign.



Now Enrolling for the 2026-27 School Year

Kyrene Kindergarten provides a strong foundation for lifelong learning and offers free, full and half-day kindergarten with a challenging and comprehensive curriculum. From dual language and computer science immersion to arts integration and leadership, Kyrene schools offer a wide variety of programs, so families can find their perfect fit.

Why Families Choose Kyrene

- ✓ **Smaller class sizes** where every child is known and supported
- ✓ **Innovative, engaging instruction** where tech meets creativity
- ✓ **Choice programs** that let you pick the right fit for your child
- ✓ Robust electives, including **languages, arts, STEM**, and more
- ✓ Academic support systems for **individualized instruction**
- ✓ Students **consistently outperform** peer, charter, and state averages

Take a Closer Look at Kyrene Schools

Kyrene is known for high academic achievement, with schools consistently outperforming peer districts, charter schools, and state averages on academic benchmarks. Kyrene's commitment to excellence ensures your child will receive the individualized attention needed to excel.

[Kyrene Kindergarten](#)

[Virtual School Tours](#)

[Points of Pride](#)

From preschool to promotion, and every milestone in between, Kyrene is where students find their spark, and families find their fit. Kyrene proudly serves all of Ahwatukee, West Chandler, parts of Guadalupe, Tempe, and the Gila River Indian Community. Kyrene also welcomes thousands of out-of-district students and their families through open enrollment.

[Download our Brochure!](#)



New Apptegy App

*Catch up on the latest news, events and other updates from Kyrene School District and **Cielo** with our NEW app. It's everything Kyrene and **Cielo** in your pocket. If you haven't already, download the app for free on [Google Play](#) or the [Apple App Store](#) today!*



Make 2026 a Summer of Fun, Learning and Adventure!

Explore new interests, make friends, and stay active in a safe and engaging environment. Whether your child loves art, science, games, or just having fun, Kyrene summer camps offer something for

everyone. Each week features exciting themes, hands-on activities, outdoor play, creative projects, and plenty of opportunities for discovery.

Spaces fill quickly, so register early and give your child a summer to remember!

June 2–July 10
7:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Kids Club

Who: students entering grades 1–5

Where: Lagos and Paloma Elementary

After Hours

Who: students entering grades 6–8

Where: Pueblo Middle School

Summer Preschool

Who: children ages 3–5 years

Where: Lagos and Paloma Elementary

June 2–June 26
7:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.*

Adventure Tours

Who: students entering grades 4–8

Where: Pueblo Middle School

*Wrap around option available until 6:00 p.m.

PLUS! Mini camps featuring stem, sports, art and more!

Weekly rates:

Kids Club and After Hours: \$279

Preschool: \$157.80

Adventure Tours: \$389.75

[REGISTER HERE](#)



KYRENE DEL CIELO
**TEACHER APPRECIATION
WEEK**

**AROUND THE WORLD
IN 5 DAYS!**

MAY 4-8TH

HELP US PACK OUR TEACHERS WITH THE
ESSENTIALS FOR A **FIRST CLASS** JOURNEY

MONDAY

Pack the Essentials:
paper, pencils, pens, markers
or a high five

TUESDAY

Treats from Takeoff
Bring your teacher's favorite
treat or wear your teacher's
favorite color

WEDNESDAY

Special Delivery!
Write a card, letter, poem
or draw a picture

THURSDAY

Relax and Recharge
Chapstick, hand lotion,
mask, candles
or a flower

FRIDAY

Jet-Set Send off
Small gift, giftcards
or wear Cielo spirit



Teacher's
Favorites List
scan QR code



Cielo YEARBOOK Signing Party!

Date: Tuesday May 19, 2026

Time: 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Place: Peter Piper Pizza, 1805 E Baseline Rd Tempe/AZ 85282



Quick Links

[School Website](#)

[Breakfast/Lunch Menu](#)

[2026-27 Calendar](#)

[ParentVue](#)

Upcoming Events

2026

July 20: Meet the Teacher, 5:30-7:00 PM

July 22: First Day of School

Aug 14: Early Release

Aug. 14: Staff Development Day

Sept. 7: Labor Day

Sept. 9-10-11: Parent Teacher Conference - Early Release

Sept. 28-29-30: Fall Break, No School

Oct. 1-9: Fall Break, No School

Oct. 12: Teacher Plan Day, No School for Students

Nov. 11: Veteran's Day, No School

Nov. 25-26-27: Thanksgiving Break, No School

Dec. 21-31: Winter Break, No School

2027

Jan. 1: Winter Break, No School

Jan. 4: Teacher Plan Day, No School for Students

Jan. 18: MLK Day, No School

Feb. 3-4-5: Parent Teacher Conferences, Early Release

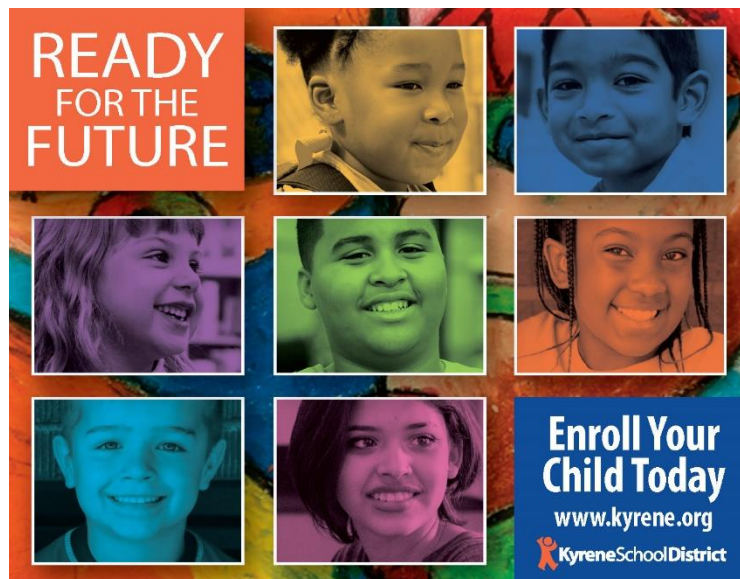
Feb. 15: Presidents' Day, No School

Mar. 8-19: Spring Break, No School

Mar. 22: Teacher Plan Day, No School for Students

Mar. 26: Early Release Day

May 26: Last Day of School



Contact Us

Kyrene del Cielo

1350 N. Lakeshore Drive
Chandler, AZ 85226

Phone: 480-541-2400

Fax: 480-541-2410

Attendance: 480-541-2401

School Hours: 7:30 am – 2:15 pm

Every Wednesday at 12:15 pm

Office Hours: 7:00 am – 3:30 pm

Every Wednesday at 1:30 pm

PORTRAIT
OF A
KYRENE KID



ADAPTABLE LEARNER • SELF-ADVOCATE • COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTOR
COMMUNICATOR • CRITICAL THINKER • PROBLEM SOLVER • COLLABORATOR
READY FOR THE FUTURE. HIGH SCHOOL. COLLEGE. CAREER. LIFE.