



August 2026

Thank you for choosing Esperanza! Please read below for our weekly family update! We will also post our family updates in ClassDojo weekly.

We love recognizing our amazing team! If a staff member has made a positive impact on your child or family, let us know! Your shoutout will be shared with them and may be featured in our weekly communications.

Staff Shoutout: <https://forms.gle/afLy2jZ3Biwsiwh99>

Quick Links

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[School and District Calendars](#)

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Principal Pieper's Message



Dear Shark Families,

We loved seeing you this week at Curriculum Night! Thank you to all who were able to attend. Your partnership is invaluable and we appreciate your support at home. If you were unable to attend, teachers will send you their slides so you can review.

This weekend we are o-fish-ally ending our **Kindness Challenge fundraiser!** We have surpassed our goal of \$22,000!!! Right now, we have brought in \$28,583!!!! Share those last minute posts and help us reach a stretch goal of \$30,000.00 raised! We have until Sunday evening. We will have a total amount coming next week and cannot wait to share the final results with you. Thank you for participating and supporting our school!

Thank you for your continued partnership and for being **All Fins In** for our students and staff. Together, we're creating a positive, supportive school community where **everybody wins!**

Academically yours,

Mrs. Pieper

Weekly Highlights:

This week we wrapped up our Kindness Challenge and continued to practice our school expectations in all areas. Students are continuing to model how to be safe, honest and respectful kids. We welcomed families on Wednesday night for Curriculum Night. Don't worry, if you could not attend, teachers will be sending slides next week for you to review. Please reach out to your child's teacher with any specific questions you may have.

Upcoming Important Dates:

8/27 Watch DOGS Kick-Off & PTO Community Meeting 6:30-7:30PM

9/2-9/4 3rd-5th Grade SEL Survey

9/7 No School Labor Day

9/9-9/11 Parent/Teacher Conferences

Weekly Events 8/24-8/28



Monday

Chess Club
(2:20-3:20)

Crafting Club
(2:20-3:20)

Tuesday

Flag Football
(2:20-3:20)

Wednesday

Early Release

Young Rembrandts
(12:20-1:20)

Thursday

Watch DOGS Kick Off and PTO Community Meeting (6:30-7:30)

Friday

S. H. A. R. K. Weekly Winners

Staff Shoutouts!

All Staff

"My daughter was welcomed to her new school like a celebrity.

"Mom, my face hurts from smiling so much!" I cannot express my gratitude enough."

Kinder, 1st and 2nd



3rd



4th



5th



Fin-tastic News

- **Parent-Teacher Conferences** are right around the corner. Please look out for sign-up information Monday. Please work with your child's teacher to sign up for conferences September 9-11th.
- **Site Council Parent Representatives needed!** We are currently in need of two parents to join our Site Council team to help manage our tax credit budget and improve our school. Please email epieper@kyrene.org if you are interested in signing up. This committee meets each month for about 45 minutes via Zoom.
- **On August 24-August 28 our students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will be participating in a district survey about their experiences with our school consolidation.** The survey is intended to help Kyrene better understand how students have experienced these changes and identify ways to better support students and families through future transitions. Please reference an email from your classroom teachers to preview the survey questions. A copy of the survey will also be available to view in the front office. Students will complete the survey during the school day. If you do not want your child to participate, please contact the front office and let us know. Students who do not participate will be provided with an alternative activity while their classmates complete the survey.
- **Watch DOGS Kick-off is Thursday from 6:30-7:30PM.** See flyer below for details! Dads, we need you!



WATCH D.O.G.S

PIZZA DINNER + KICK OFF

WHO: Students and their fathers and/or father-figures (e.g., guardian, step-dad, grandfathers, uncles and adult brothers)

WHAT: Free Pizza Party to launch this year's WATCH D.O.G.S. program which will begin in September. *Pizza, drinks, and sweets will be provided.*

WHERE: The Multipurpose Room

WHEN: Thursday, August 27th, 6:30-7:30 PM

ABOUT: WATCH D.O.G.S. is a national program designed to increase the committed involvement of fathers and father-figures at school. Our goal is for you to spend one day this school year serving as a positive male role model at Kyrene de la Esperanza Elementary School. WATCH D.O.G.S. primary goals are: To provide positive male role models for the students, demonstrating by their presence that education is important. To provide extra sets of eyes and ears to enhance school security and reduce bullying.



In order to obtain an accurate count for food, please fill RSVP by Tuesday, August 25th. We can work together to create meaningful experiences this year for all our Esperanza students!



TO RSVP: SCAN THE QR CODE, HEAD TO THE LINK BELOW, OR RETURN THE BOTTOM SLIP TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER BY AUGUST 25.

CALENDLY.COM/ESPERANZAWATCHDOGS/PIZZAKICKOFF



Please complete and return bottom portion to school by Tuesday, August 26. Return one form per family!

YES We will be there!

Father/Father-figure Name: _____ # of attendees: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Student(s) Name: _____

Teacher(s) Name: _____

Teachers please return completed forms to the office by Tuesday, August 25.

Kyrene School District Information

- **The Kyrene Governing Board has approved a 60-day review of Elementary Social Emotional Learning resources.** The public review of resources opened on August 19, 2026 and runs through December 2, 2026, allowing teachers, families and the community the opportunity to review all materials under consideration for adoption for the 2027-2028 school year and beyond. During the 60-Day Review, vendors provide recorded presentations, online demo access, and digital materials for review. Families and Community members can view materials and submit a feedback survey on the [Elementary Social Emotional Learning Adoption page](#) on the Kyrene website or you can visit a Kyrene Elementary school to request access to these digital resources.
- **ESS Parent Training.** Join us for an IEP Training provided by Encircle Families. Learn about the special education process and the Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Register here: [IEP Training with Encircle Families](#)
 - Oct 19, 2026
 - 5:30-7:30 pm
- **Beginning of the year district assessment reports have been posted to ParentVUE.** Families are able to access the results through ParentVue in the documents section. Need help accessing the reports? ... See the attachment for directions with screenshots. Need help understanding the reports or how to support your child? ... See the family guide for each assessment or reach out to your child's teacher. Resources are attached below.

For Families

The goal is also for your student to be making progress in their learning. After your student has taken more than one Diagnostic in the school year, you will see results for each Diagnostic, allowing you to see the progress your student is making both overall and in each domain.

Assessment Results in ParentVUE

Navigate to the ParentVUE website (www.kyrene.org/pvue)

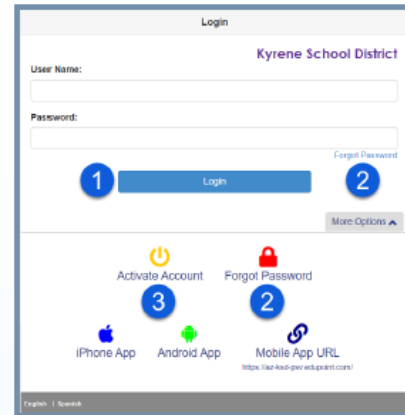
ParentVUE Login

Forgot Password

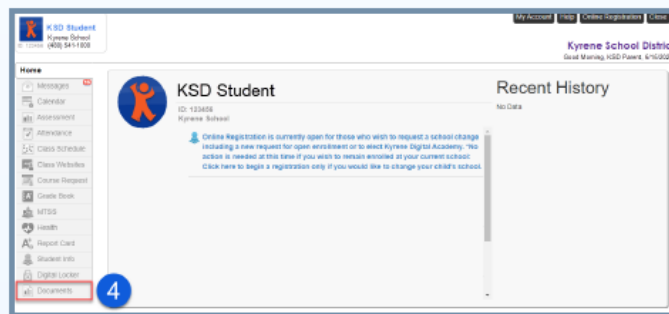
Activate Account

View Assessment
Results

1. Enter your Username and password and click the **Login** button.
2. If you are unsure what your username or password is, click the **Forgot Password** link. The username associated with your ParentVUE account will be emailed to you along with a link to reset your password.
3. If you do not have a ParentVUE account, contact your child's school to issue you an Activation Key with directions on how to create an account.



4. Once logged in to ParentVUE, click on the **Documents** tab on the left-hand side.



5. Click on the blue hyperlink in the "Document" column to open each report.

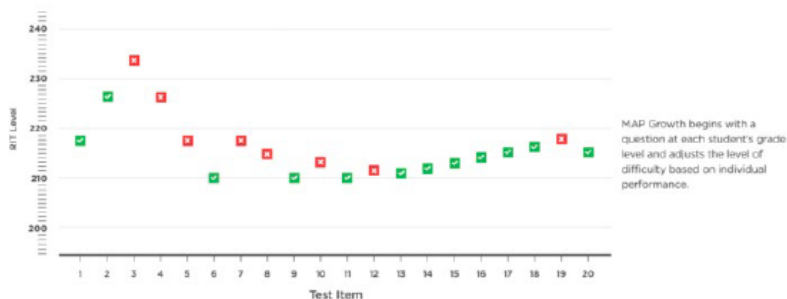
DOCUMENTS		
Documents		
Upload Date	Document	Document Category
Q	Q	(All)
06/15/2021	AsdMERIT Spring 2021 Math	Assessment Results
06/15/2021	AsdMERIT Spring 2021 ELA	Assessment Results
01/29/2021	2020-2021 2nd Quarter Grading Report	Report Cards
10/27/2020	2020-21 1st Quarter Grading Report	Report Cards
05/28/2020	2019-20 4th Quarter Grading Report	Report Cards
05/21/2020	2019-20 3rd Quarter Grading Report	Report Cards
07/29/2019	AsdMERIT Spring 2019 ELA	Assessment Results
07/29/2019	AsdMERIT Spring 2019 Math	Assessment Results

Family Guide to NWEA MAP Growth Assessments

Children learn better—and faster—when teachers have a clear picture of what students know and how they are growing academically. More than 13 million students in the US and in 140 countries worldwide take MAP Growth Assessments. In Kyrene, students participate in the NWEA Reading and NWEA Math assessments depending on their grade level.

How It Works

MAP Growth is a computer-adaptive test. If your child answers a question correctly, the next question is more challenging. If they answer incorrectly, the next one is easier. This type of assessment challenges top performers without overwhelming students whose skills are below grade level.



What It Measures

MAP Growth uses a RIT scale to accurately measure what students know, regardless of their grade level. It also measures growth over time, allowing you to track your child's progress throughout the school year and across multiple years. Once your child completes a MAP Growth test, they receive a RIT score.



Your Child's RIT Score

RIT scores have the same meaning across grade levels. If a fourth-grade student and an eighth-grade student have the same RIT score in reading, then they are testing at the same level in that subject. This stable scale allows teachers to accurately measure each student's academic growth throughout the school year and over time.

The Family Report

The NWEA Family Report has a brief introduction that explains the goal of the report, what MAP Growth is, and why students take MAP Growth. The report also defines the terms "achievement," "growth," and "RIT score". A student's progress is broken down by subject and the graphs show individual achievement and growth over time and as compared to the national average. The family report also shows how students are predicted to perform on upcoming state-level assessments, so you can get a clear sense of how well your child is progressing toward proficiency.

Family Guide to Home Connect Letters for DIBELS

Home Connect Letters describe the tests used to determine your child's reading proficiency and what you can do to help your child develop these skills. In Kyrene, we use DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) to assess foundational reading skills of all children in kindergarten through 3rd grade.

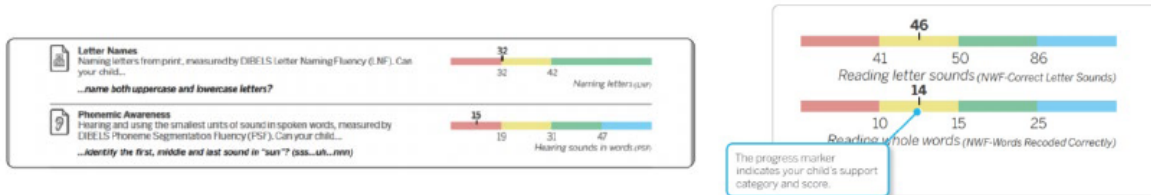
Overview

The overview section contains information about your child's overall (or composite) reading score and a brief explanation of the meaning of the results.



Skills Review

The skills review section describes the reading skills that were measured and examples for each. Each skill is displayed with a progress bar with the benchmark goal starting at the green band. If your child is close to or above the goal, the less support he/she may need.



Activities

The activities section contains a list of recommended activities you can use to help advance your child's reading development. The Home Connect site at <https://mclass.amplify.com/homeconnect/> provides even more activities.

Activities for Bruno
Even if you have just a few minutes each day, you may be surprised by how much you can help Bruno learn to read. Here are some activities we recommend based on Bruno's most recent mCLASS reading test. Most of these activities can be done just about anywhere. Feel free to change them a bit to match Bruno's interests or to fit your schedule.

Where Bruno needs support

Phonemic Awareness
Hearing and using the smallest units of sound in spoken words

Find Specific Sounds
Have your child and other family members listen for words with a specific sound in family conversation or on television and radio programs, such as words that start with the s sound or that end with the k sound. Have your family members share their heard words and list them on a piece of paper.

Break the Words Apart
Help your child take spoken words apart and put them together. Have your child separate the sounds in simple three-letter words, listening for beginning, middle, and ending sounds. For example, pronounce room as follows: rrr-o-oom. Next, ask your child to blend sounds together to make a word. Say words one sound at a time; for example, you say sh-e-e-p and your child says sheep.



PTO Spotlight

This week we are wrapping up the Kindness Challenge and can't wait to celebrate the final earnings on Monday! Please keep reaching out to families across the world for donations to hit our stretch goal of \$30,000.00.

Michelle Kay- President

Tarrah Bonner & Augusta Sloan- Co-Vice Presidents

Vanessa Morely- Secretary

Asashia Brunner - Treasurer

Upcoming Important Dates:

8/27 Watch Dogs Kick-Off and
PTO Community Meeting

Kyrene de la Esperanza PTO NEWSLETTER

Parent Teacher Organization
August 2026

Hello Esperanza Families!

Welcome! We are so excited to get the school year started and for our families to become one amazing community. At the end of each month, we will send out a newsletter with all our fun upcoming events, news from around the school, and ways you can get involved. We have a lot planned for this year!

Important Dates

- 8/07/26: 4-8pm Peter Piper Pizza
Pizza with the Principal event
- 8/10/26: Kindness Fundraiser begins
(ends on 8/21)
- 8/27/26: 6:30pm WATCHDOG Kickoff (dinner provided)
7:00pm Community PTO meeting

Donations Needed

- Gift Cards
- Goldfish crackers
- Bottled water
- Bars: Made Good Granola Bites, Nature Valley, BelVita, Arrayoy Fig
- Applesauce pouches
- Pirates Booty/Smart Pop



ESPPTO

News

- Our PTO events calendar is coming soon! Get ready to have a full year of fun!
- Please join us at Peter Piper Pizza 🍕 on 8/7 for Pizza with Principal Pieper! Come eat, drink, play, and meet our amazing Principal, staff, PTO, and new community! 20% of sales made AT THE COUNTER will go back to the Esperanza PTO 🙌 (kiosk sales do NOT count towards our return). You can also order online with the QR code on the flyer. Families who attend will be entered in a raffle for a gift card! See you there!
- We'd love to see you at our WATCHDOG Kickoff party and PTO community meeting on 8/27! PTO will be providing Zzeeks pizza for all who attend – YUM! Look for the flyer coming home next week



Stay Connected

We are always happy to hear from you at Sharks@EsperanzaPTO.org and stop by our website at www.EsperanzaPTO.org

Follow Us!



@EsperanzaPTO

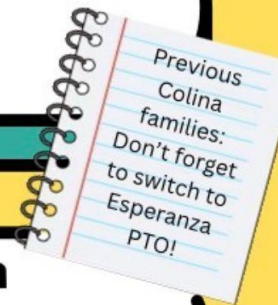
Easy Ways

TO SUPPORT ESPERANZA

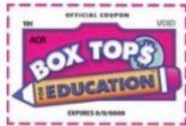
COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM



Link your shoppers card to
KYRENE DE LA ESPERANZA PTO
and every purchase helps our school!



Box Tops 4 Education



Download the app and search for:
KYRENE DE LA ESPERANZA PTO
and scan your receipts to
earn money for our school!



Mabel's Labels

Need labels for lunchboxes, backpacks, water bottles, or jackets?

Go to their fundraising page and search for
KYRENE DE LA ESPERANZA PTO
and our school will get 20% back!



VOLUNTEER

with the PTO

- have your voice heard
- be more involved with your child's day to day school experience
- get to know admin & staff
- 1st dibs on volunteer opportunities
- &more!

Join Us!



DON'T MISS YOUR STOP. BECOME A BUS MONITOR.

Help keep students safe, supported, and ready to learn!



Split Shifts Monday-Friday
Summers Off



Medical, Dental, Vision
Arizona State Retirement

APPLY TODAY



Contact Us

Kyrene de la Esperanza

14841 S. 41st Place
Phoenix, AZ 85044

Phone: 480-541-2800

Fax: 480-541-2810

Attendance: 480-541-2801

School Hours: 7:30 am - 2:15 pm

Early Dismissal Wednesday 12:15 pm

Office Hours: 7:00 am - 3:30 pm

Wednesday: 7:00 am - 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.

