

Kyrene de la Esperanza



September 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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Principal Pieper's Message



Dear Shark Families,

We have made it to the **final week of the quarter!** As we wrap up a wonderful first quarter at Esperanza, we are excited to celebrate the hard work, growth, and accomplishments of our Sharks!

On **Monday, we'll kick off the week with our Shark Assemblies**, where we will recognize students with our **SWAG Awards, Beat the Bell Awards, and Super Shark Awards!** We love having the opportunity to celebrate our Sharks for the many ways they make Esperanza an amazing place to

learn and grow. We will eventually be inviting families to our award ceremonies, but need time to review expectations and practice these ceremonies before we invite guests. Also on Monday night, we hope to see you all at Nello's for our final family dinner night of the quarter!

On **Wednesday, we'll continue the celebrations with our Proud Principal Lunch**, a special opportunity to recognize students and enjoy some time together before we head into Fall Break.

As we celebrate, we also want to **finish the quarter strong!** Please continue helping your Shark arrive at school **on time each day**, well-rested and ready to learn. Every day—and every instructional minute—counts! Our goal is to reduce the amount of daily tardies.

We are incredibly proud of what our students and staff have accomplished this quarter and grateful for the continued support of our Esperanza families.

It takes all of us working together to make Esperanza such a special place. Thank you for being **ALL FINS IN—because when we are all fins in, everybody wins!**

Academically yours,

Mrs. Pieper

Week Highlights:

Last week we enjoyed our first days of FULL recess without heat advisories! It was such a joy to see how cherished the extra time outside has been. Student Council elections have officially kicked off! Students no matter what the results may show, we are SO proud of all your hard work running for President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary.

Upcoming Important Dates:

9/21 Nello's Family Dinner Night

9/28-10/13 Fall Break

10/12 No School Teacher Work Day

Weekly Events 9/21-9/25



Monday

SHARK
Assemblies!

Watch DOGS
Mr. Byus

Tuesday

Flag Football
(2:20-3:20)

Mallet Band
(2:20-3:20)

Wednesday

Early Release

Proud Principal
Lunches!

Thursday

Shark
Strummers

Watch DOGS
Mr. Skaggs

Friday

Mallet Band
(2:20-3:20)

Crafting Club
(2:20-3:20)

Chess
Emporium
(2:20-3:20)

Young
Rembrandts
(12:20-1:20)

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

K - 2nd



K - 2nd



3rd



4th



5th



Staff Shoutouts!

Mandy Azose, Music Teacher

"I would like to give a shoutout to Mrs. Avalos for her kindness and support. She has helped my child feel more comfortable at school, and we truly appreciate the care and encouragement she provides every day. I especially appreciate how proactive she is in supporting my child and taking concrete steps to help her. In Japan, I have rarely encountered a teacher who takes such thoughtful and proactive action, so her support gives us a great sense of reassurance. Thank you for everything you do!"

Watch D.O.G.S.

Mr. Hernandez



Mr. Downer



All Fins In & On Time

Being on time matters! Our school day begins at **7:30 a.m.** and those first minutes of the day help set students up for success. When students arrive on time, they are able to:

- Settle in and begin the day feeling prepared rather than rushed.
- Participate in important morning routines and **social-emotional learning (SEL)** with their classmates.
- Connect with their teacher and peers and strengthen their sense of belonging.
- Be ready when academic instruction begins without missing directions or learning time.

Our September Challenge: Let's work together to significantly reduce our tardies! We encourage families to build in a few extra minutes each morning and make arriving **before 7:30 a.m.** the goal.

We'll be celebrating our progress throughout the month and recognizing our Sharks for being

ALL FINS IN & ON TIME on Monday!

Fin-tastic News

- Students will be celebrated during this week's **SHARK Assemblies** on Monday. These awards are SWAG (students with academic growth), SUPER Shark Awards (students who are rocking the SHARK expectations) and Beat the Bell Awards (students who have been on time every day this quarter). In addition, I will be having a specials lunch with our **Proud Principal** lunch winners for the quarter from each grade.
- **Water Bottle Donations** are appreciated for our health office. If you are able, please donate to the front office.
- **We're hiring!** If you or someone you know would like to join our team, we have the following positions vacant: apply [today!](#)
 - Lunch/Crossing
 - CCB Instructional Assistant
 - Resource Instructional Assistant

PTO Spotlight

Esperanza's Parent Teacher Organization is a formal group of parents/guardians, teachers, and school administration who work together to support students, staff, and enrich the school!



Important Dates:

9/21 11am-9pm Nello's Family Dinner Night

Kyrene de la Esperanza PTO NEWSLETTER

Parent Teacher Organization
September 2026

PTO Celebrations

WOW! Thank you to all families who participated in our Kindness Fundraising!! We raised \$19,300 for our school!! That money will do amazing things for our students and staff this year!!

Our Pizza with the Principal event at Peter Piper Pizza was also a HUGE success! We received a donation of \$1,399.82!! The White family was our lucky winner of the \$50 gift card drawing for families, and Ms. Knight was our lucky winner of the \$50 gift card for staff! Congrats to all, and thank you for attending!

Thank you to all who attended our Watch DOGS Kickoff and PTO Community meeting- we had an incredible turnout and are looking forward to seeing all the dads/male role models around campus this year!

Important Dates

- 9/2/26: Bahama Bucks fundraiser 12-10pm
- 9/7/26: No school- Labor Day
- 9/8-9/11: Book Fair in the Library
- 9/9 -9/11: Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 9/21: Nello's dinner night 11 am-9 pm
- 9/28: Fall break starts
- 10/13: Kids return to school
- 10/16: KTR fundraiser 1-8 pm
- 10/23: Trunk or Treat Fall Festival 6-8pm

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

- The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Esperanza!
 - Book Fair open:
 - 9/8: 2:15- 3:00pm
 - 9/9: 12:15- 7:00 pm
 - 9/10: 12:15- 7:00 pm
 - 9/11: 12:15-1:00 pm
 - Volunteers needed for the book fair- please see the flyer to sign up
- Our Trunk or Treat Fall Festival is right around the corner! Sign up to participate in the trunk line-up coming soon. Also be on the lookout for the Esperanza candy monsters, Fred and Lydia, arriving in the front office for our candy donation competition!
- Have you thought about joining the PTO, but aren't sure if you want the full commitment of being a board member?? We want YOU! The PTO is looking for a parent/guardian from each grade level to be a PTO advisory member. Interested?

Stay Connected



Sharks@EsperanzaPTO.com



NEW WEBSITE coming soon!
EsperanzaPTO.com

Follow Us!



@EsperanzaPTO

nello's PIZZERIA + ITALIAN KITCHEN

Join us for a fundraiser to support



Kyrene de la Esperanza Elementary

Monday, September 21st

All day - Dine In or Take Out

For both dine in and takeout, please mention you are supporting
Kyrene de la Esperanza Elementary School!

Nello's Pizzeria + Italian Kitchen

Ahwatukee

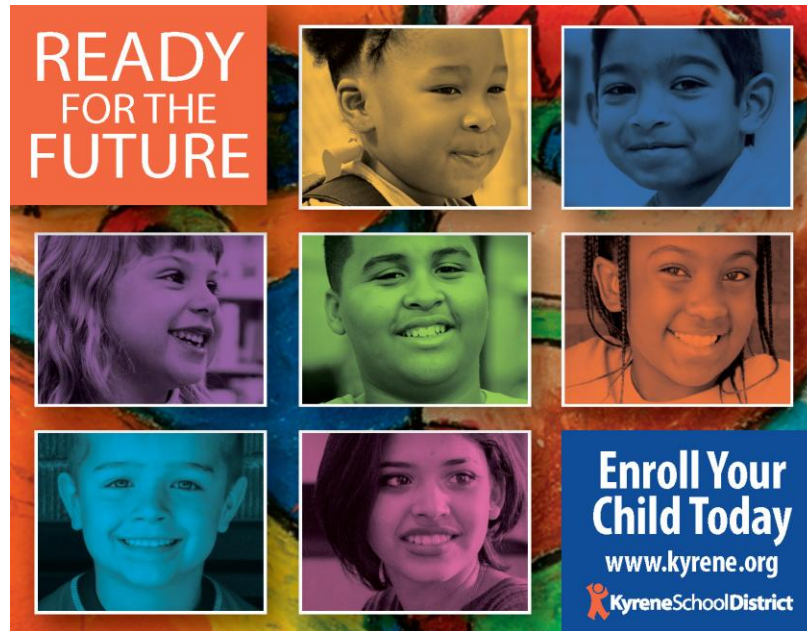
4710 E. Warner Rd. Phoenix AZ 85044

480.893.8930

15% OF YOUR FOOD & DRINK PURCHASE WILL BE DONATED

Kyrene School District Information

- **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
 - District Office



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.

