

## **All About Kyrene:** Facts about the Kyrene Curriculum

The Kyrene School District has a Board-adopted curriculum for all grades and subjects. Each curriculum is developed through a thorough process that includes teachers, administrators, outside experts, parents, and other interested parties.

The curriculum is designed and implemented to support the following beliefs:

- All students are capable of achieving excellence in learning the essentials of formal schooling.
- Success influences self-concept; self-concept influences learning and behavior.
- The instructional process can be adapted to improve learning.
- Schools can maximize the learning conditions for all students through clearly stated outcomes, high expectations for all students, and continuous, “authentic” assessment of student learning.
- Successful, “authentic” student learning must be based on providing appropriate educational experiences at the appropriate level of challenge in order to ensure maximum student achievement.

Kyrene curriculum is based on the Arizona Content Standards. The curriculum is both rich and rigorous and promotes problem solving, concept development, and abstract thinking. The curriculum serves as a framework from which teachers will develop units of study, individual lesson plans, and instructional approaches to meet the needs of all students.

All students at all grade levels are assessed on the local curriculum at the end of each grade in Math. Language Arts is assessed in grades 2 through 8. In grades 3, 5, and 7 an externally scored authentic writing assessment is administered. Parents are provided student reports for these assessments.

Teachers also conduct frequent diagnoses of students on the curriculum objectives. Teacher-made tests as well as criterion-referenced and standardized tests are used to determine patterns of student achievement. The teachers and supervisors use test results to assess the status of individual student achievement, continuously regroup students for instruction, identify general achievement trends of various groups of students, and modify curriculum and/or instruction as warranted by assessment results.

Each school site has a locally developed School Improvement Plan (S.I.P.) that addresses the unique needs of the learners and the community. The school S.I.P. has goals related to Reading, Math, and Writing for each grade level. It also includes an analysis of student performance and parent satisfaction.

The Kyrene School District is proud of the educational experience that we provide for all our students. Please do not hesitate to contact the district’s Curriculum, Assessment Design, and Implementation Department or the school principal to answer any specific questions that you may have.