



March 25, 2009

Middle Schools

- Akimel A-al
- Altadena
- Aprende
- Centennial
- Kyrene
- Pueblo

Elementary Schools

- Brisas
- Cerritos
- Cielo
- Colina
- Esperanza
- Estrella
- Lagos
- Lomas
- Manitas
- Mariposa
- Milenio
- Mirada
- Monte Vista
- Niños
- Norte
- Paloma
- Sierra
- Sureño
- C.I. Waggoner

Administration

- David K. Schauer, Ed.D.
Superintendent
- Terry Tatterfield, MBA
Assistant Superintendent
- Gina Taylor, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent
- Mark Knight, Ph.D.
Executive Director
- Patricia A. Weegar
Executive Director

Governing Board

- Michelle Hirsch
- Patrick McGill
- Ross Robb
- Ellen Shamah
- Rae Waters

Dear Waggoner and KMS Families –

As you know, on Monday, March 16, the roof of the multi-purpose room at Waggoner Elementary collapsed. School was cancelled at Waggoner and reopened on Tuesday with some of the elementary students being relocated to Kyrene Middle School. Last week I sent a letter to Kyrene families outlining some immediate plans we made regarding inspecting ALL Kyrene buildings. There has been an intense focus on both Waggoner and KMS. Gervasio and Associates (consulting engineers) have inspected the walls and roofs at both locations. At this point, it has been determined that they will be doing some preventative maintenance in the KMS Media Center. That work will take place this afternoon.

This is exactly why we ordered a more extensive inspection than what the state requires. We are doing what it takes to have safe buildings for all our students. If, for any reason it was determined that children were in an unsafe situation, we would immediately make alternative arrangements. However, we have assurances from all parties involved that there are no issues regarding occupancy at Kyrene Middle School.

At Waggoner, there are some classrooms that only received water damage. We are in the process of receiving clearance from the consulting engineers and City of Tempe to re-occupy some of those rooms. Health Effects Group, a company of industrial hygienists, is providing the air quality tests and clearances. These air quality checks will continue on a regular basis even after we receive clearance to re-occupy. Dr. Hegebush will work closely with teachers to prepare the rooms to welcome the students back to their classrooms.

Last night the Governing Board held a Study Session to discuss the roof collapse. I'd like to thank those who took time to attend this meeting. We know the number one question on everyone's mind is what caused this collapse. The forensic structural engineering investigation is on-going, and we want answers as badly as you do. However, we also want an accurate and thorough report. Last night the engineer from Gervasio and Associates, the firm doing the investigation, estimated the report would be delivered within two to three weeks.

Please communicate with us as you have been, and use the Kyrene website at www.kyrene.org. We will update the Frequently Asked Questions section based on last night's Study Session and will add additional questions as they are received.

The students, families and staffs at both Waggoner and KMS have been *exceptional* during this past week in adapting to the situation. As you know, we do have counseling services available and you can contact your child's teachers should you want more information. Thank you for your support during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Schauer
Superintendent