

PHILOSOPHY

Gifted children have special needs that are best addressed through qualitatively differentiated learning opportunities. Kyrene's Gifted Resource Program is designed to provide an environment in which students do not encounter limitations to their cognitive and affective development.

BELIEFS

- Gifted children have a right to an appropriate education, one grounded in the recognition of individual differences and unique learning needs.
- Gifted children need a curriculum responsive to their individual learning rate, style, and complexity.
- Gifted children learn best in an instructional environment that encourages and nurtures complex thinking.
- Gifted children need time to interact with intellectual peers to nurture and support their unique cognitive needs.
- Gifted children need to spend time with their age/grade peers to nurture and support their social development.

For more information about the program specifics, contact the gifted specialist at the appropriate school.

Elementary Schools

C.I. Waggoner	480-783-1900
Kyrene de las Brisas	480-783-2300
Kyrene de los Cerritos	480-783-1200
Kyrene del Cielo	480-783-2100
Kyrene de la Colina	480-783-2600
Kyrene de la Esperanza	480-783-1700
Kyrene de la Estrella	480-783-1800
Kyrene de los Lagos	480-783-1400
Kyrene de las Lomas	480-783-2800
Kyrene de las Manitas	480-783-2000
Kyrene de la Mariposa	480-783-3200
Kyrene del Milenio	480-783-3400
Kyrene de la Mirada	480-783-2900
Kyrene Monte Vista	480-783-1500
Kyrene de los Niños	480-783-3100
Kyrene del Norte	480-783-3300
Kyrene de la Paloma	480-783-2700
Kyrene de la Sierra	480-783-1100
Kyrene del Sureno	480-783-3000

Middle Schools

Kyrene Akimel A-al	480-783-1600
Kyrene Altadeña	480-783-1300
Kyrene Aprende	480-783-2200
Kyrene Centennial	480-783-2500
Kyrene Middle School	480-783-1000
Kyrene del Pueblo	480-783-2400

Kyrene School District No. 28



Exceptional Student Services
8700 S. Kyrene Road
Tempe, AZ 85284
480-783-4000

Kyrene School District No. 28

GIFTED PROGRAM AND SERVICES

Kyrene's gifted program is designed to provide academic assistance to students who demonstrate programming needs beyond those that the regular classroom can address in specific content areas. This assistance assures that gifted students will be intellectually challenged.



Kyrene School District Gifted Program & Services

Eligibility

Eligibility for gifted programming is determined through the administration of the Cognitive Abilities Test and through careful consideration of other important educational data. The Cognitive Abilities Test provides information on the level and pattern of an individual's development in the areas of verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal reasoning. This test requires the student to use concepts that he/she has acquired from experience both in and out of the school to solve tasks not directly taught in school. The test measures inductive and abstract reasoning.

Kyrene School District utilizes a two-tier approach in the identification of and provision of services for gifted students. Testing is offered three times each year in grades K-8.

Step One: Identification

Students will be identified as gifted who score at or above 97th percentile in one or more of the three areas of the CogAT: verbal, quantitative, and/or nonverbal reasoning.

Step Two: Services

Appropriate and needed educational services for identified students will be determined through a Child Study Team approach. The principal, school psychologist, classroom teacher, and gifted teacher meet to determine the optimal learning environment for the identified student. A continuum of services is available and will be delivered based on the needs of the child.

Students who transfer from other gifted pro-

grams in schools outside of Kyrene must meet the same criterion. It may be necessary to retest those students with a state-approved abilities test.

Elementary Gifted Services K-2

This consultative service has as its focus assisting the regular classroom teachers in differentiating the instruction of these K-2 students. Enriched learning opportunities may include:

- Flexible ability/skill grouping
- Variation of product options
- Adjusted outcome expectations
- Individualized projects
- Provision of enrichment opportunities
- Individualized learning plans

Grades 3-5

Verbal Reasoning — Children identified as gifted in the area of verbal reasoning are eligible for gifted programming in the area of Language Arts. Appropriate grade-level and accelerated objectives for communication arts will be addressed.

Quantitative Reasoning — Children identified as gifted in the area of quantitative reasoning are eligible for gifted programming in the area of mathematics. They receive instruction on appropriate grade-level and accelerated math objectives.

Non-verbal Reasoning — Children identified as gifted in the area of non-verbal reasoning are eligible for gifted programming in abstract reasoning and spatial relationships concepts.

A variety of service options and program schedules are available at each elementary school. Please contact the gifted resource specialist at any school for program specifics.

Elementary Curriculum

Kyrene's gifted curriculum provides students with special education services commensurate with their academic abilities and potentials. The curriculum is differentiated in content, process, product, and environment from regular grade-level curriculum. Acceleration and enrichment is accomplished through development of the following skills:

- Logical thinking
- Reasoning skills
- Critical and creative thinking
- Problem solving

Teachers at the elementary level are specially trained in addressing the academic, social, and emotional needs of gifted children.

Middle School

The Kyrene School District offers advanced placement courses for middle school students in grades six through eight. Advanced classes in Mathematics and Language Arts are available for those students who meet designated criteria. Placement is based on meeting criteria on indicators of achievement and a high degree of motivation as evidenced by grades or mastery of objectives and teacher assessment of work completion. These indicators include:

- State tests
- District tests
- Middle School Math placement assessment
- Elementary School gifted placement
- 5th grade primary language arts or math teacher evaluation of student performance