

Akimel A-al Middle School 16th Annual

Patriotic Day

Friday, April 17, 2009 ♦ 9:30 am ♦ AMS Gymnasium

Please join us as we honor the contributions and sacrifices
of all of America's Veterans.

Guest Speakers · Special Presentations · Presentation of the Flag · Remembrance
Ceremony · A Grateful Nation Remembers · Musical Presentations by the AMS Band ,
AMS Chorus, and Kindergarteners from Lagos Elementary School

Kyrene Akimel A-al Middle School opened as the Kyrene School District's fourth middle school in the fall of 1992. From its inception, we knew that this school would stand for not only first rate academic and social programs, but also for a deep level of commitment to assisting our students in assuming the responsibilities of citizenship and freedom in our country and in appreciating all of the sacrifices and bravery that has allowed u those responsibilities.

In 1994, we began to think, plan, and work towards a new goal. After countless hours of work by staff, Kyrene Akimel A-al Middle School was named a World War II Commemorative School, the only middle school in Arizona to achieve that honor. We proudly flew a special flag and have many events to learn about the history of World War II, and honor all of those who served. That same year, the first Friday of April was designated **Patriotic Day** at Akimel A-al.

Patriotic Day is an annual event at our school and is organized by a school committee and the Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO). This year, Akimel A-al Middle School will celebrate Patriotic Day for a milestone 16th consecutive year. Students and staff plan and work hard to attend to the thousands of details which go into this celebration. It is, without a doubt, a highlight of our year.

We especially appreciate the support our community gives to this Program. Each year, many students bring their Grandfathers and Grandmothers, Fathers and Mothers, who are veterans, to the ceremony. We extend a special invitation to our families and community and hope that you will join us for this special event .

For further information, contact:

Dennis Prince, Patriotic Day Committee Chair, 480-783-1643, dprinc@kyrene.org

Leila Dalton, Administrative Specialist, 480-783-1681, ldalto@kyrene.org

SCHOOL WIDE TESTS AND ASSESSMENTS

Your child will be taking a number of assessments during March, April and May beginning with the AIMS test in March-April. Throughout this school year, we have focused on student learning and progress. We are confident that our students are very well prepared for AIMS as well as district assessments.

One important component of the No Child Left Behind Act is Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). **AYP requires 95% of all students to be tested.** The 95% threshold is applied to any subgroup of students that contain 30 or more students. For example, a subgroup could be third grade English Language Learners taking the AIMS math test or eighth grade Asian students taking the AIMS reading test. It is very important to us to have your student present and participate in the AIMS testing.

AIMS testing for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students will take place March 30—April 2. Testing will take place for approximately two hours each day.

We ask that parents schedule appointments on alternative dates or at times which won't interfere with the testing. Students absent due to illness will be offered a make-up time to take the tests.

The testing experience is one that your child will face multiple times during his/her schooling. Our goal is for the students to approach it as an opportunity to demonstrate what they have learned, rather than a stressful event. Akimel A-al Middle School teachers continue to prepare and discuss with your child what he/she can do to be ready for testing.

As always, the staff and I appreciate the support we have from you, our parents.

Sincerely,



Ernie Brodersen, Principal

SPRING BREAK

March 9-13



UPCOMING ASSESSMENTS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mar 30—Apr 2	AIMS (Grades 6, 7, 8)
Apr 3—Apr 9	AIMS Make-Up
Apr 3	Science AIMS (Grade 8)
Apr 6	AIMS Math Field test (Grades 6-7-8)
Apr 20-21	CASS EOG (Grades 6, 7, 8)
Apr 22	CASS EOG Make-Up
Apr 27-28	MSS EOG (Grades 6, 7, 8)
Apr 29	MSS EOG Make-Up
May 4-8	Gr 7 District Spanish Test
May 14	Algebra & Geometry Final
May 4-14	Gr 8/High School Spanish Placement 1-2 Exam

CASS - Language Arts | MSS - Mathematics

What is a standardized test?

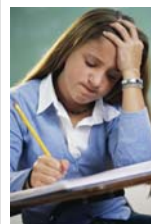
Standardized tests are created to see how students from one school or class compare to other students across the city, the state or the country. They give educators a common standard to measure student performance.

To measure fairly, these tests need to be given under the same conditions. The amount of time students have to finish the tests is strictly controlled. Each is scored in the same way - a student who answers 67 questions correctly gets the same score whether the test is taken in California or Maine.

Some tests measure students' aptitude - their ability to learn. The test a broad range of skills and abilities that can help teachers plan instruction that is not too hard and not too easy.

Other tests measure achievement - how much students have already learned. They can be used to measure whether students have mastered the information presented in their math or science class.

Help Your Middle Schooler Be Prepared for Assessments

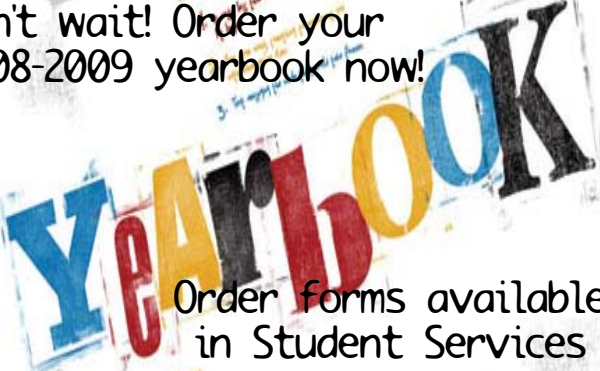


Studying isn't the only way to prepare for assessments. Listed below are a few ways that will help a middle schooler be prepared...

- Provide your child with a healthy breakfast before school
- Make sure your child gets enough rest
- Encourage your child to have an "I can do it" attitude
- Suggest your child wear comfortable clothing on assessment days
- Review test-taking tips with your child, such as "Answer the easiest questions first."

CHARACTERCOUNTS *at*
Akimel A-al Middle School

Don't wait! Order your 2008-2009 yearbook now!



Order forms available in Student Services

POP TOP COLLECTION DRIVE CONTINUES

The Pop Top Collection Drive, organized by AMS 7th grade social studies teacher, Mrs. Jane Anderson, continues. The goal is to collect enough pop tops to represent the 11 million people who were lost in the Holocaust. This activity ties in with Akimel A-al's Rattler Creed and Character Counts programs. It encourages students to help make AMS a place of kindness and acceptance for all.



Students should bring their collection of pop tops to Mrs. Anderson's classroom, Room C6. For further information, contact: Jane Anderson, 480-783-1646, jander@kyrene.org

Easy Ways to Support Your Child's Teachers

A great and easy way for you to support Akimel A-al and your child's teachers is by donating items such as copy paper, facial tissue, and band aides. Donations can be delivered to the school office and we will make sure they get to the designated teacher or team. Your donations will be greatly appreciated!



AMS Alumni Wall of Honor



It is with great pride that we are able to honor our former students who have or are currently serving in the U.S. military by displaying portraits of these students in uniform in our school office.

If you know of an AMS alumni who is a veteran or active duty service member, please let them know that we'd love to have their picture displayed in the AMS office.

CHANGE IN HOURS FOR 2009/10

Akimel A-al will return to 'early start' hours for the 2009/10 school year. School hours will be:

Mon-Tue-Thu-Fri: 8:15 am - 3:15 pm
Wed: 8:15 am - 1:45 pm



The first bell will ring at 8:11 am. At 8:15 am, all students should be in class. Unless involved in a supervised school activity, students cannot be on campus prior to 7:45 am.

AMS ATHLETICS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER

The Athletic Department is looking for someone to do minor sewing repairs to some uniforms. If you would be interested please contact Mrs. Dempsey in Student Services at 480-783-1691 or gdemps@kyrene.org.

COMMUNICATION THROUGH EMAIL

We now have an important new tool to help us communicate with you. Through the AMS List Serve we are able to send important messages directly to your e-mail. You will receive periodic emails to let you know when the newsletter is available and to notify you of important school news and events. We have already sent out several emails through the AMS List Serve. **If you have not received them, please sign up by going to the Kyrene School District website: <http://www.kyrene.org>.** Click on the "eSubscribe: Official KSD email Newsletters" icon on the lower right hand side of the homepage. Select the Kyrene Akimel A-al Middle School box to receive news from AMS. Type your email address and name in the boxes and submit.

Eighth Grade End of the Year Events

A special edition of the Rattler Tales, detailing end of the year events for our 8th grade students is available on-line at www.kyrene.org/schools/Akimel/ams.htm.

Please make note of these very important dates. →



May 7	8th Grade Awards Night 6:30 pm, AMS MPR
May 15	8th Grade Celebration Dance 7-9 pm, AMS MPR
May 19	8th Grade Promotion AMS Gym 8D @ 5:00 pm 8B @ 6:00 pm 8C @ 7:15 pm 8A @ 8:30 pm
May 20	8th Grade Sunsplash Outing during school day
May 21	Last Day of School - - Yearbooks Distributed - Yearbook signing - Activities in MPR & Gym

DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT CONTACT INFORMATION?

It's very important that the school has your current contact information—address, home phone, work phone, cell phone, email address. If any of this has changed since you filled out your child's emergency card at the beginning of the year, please contact the AMS School Registrar, Mrs. Stogsdill, at 480-783-1600 or lstogs@kyrene.org. Thank you.





Big Daddy's BBQ Fundraiser

Wednesday

March 4 • April 1 • May 6

The AMS PTSO will earn 20% of all sales from AMS on these dates.
Tell your server you are from AMS!

Big Daddy's is located at 3941 E. Chandler Blvd., Suite 101, Phoenix, AZ 85048
(southwest corner of 40th Street & Chandler Blvd.)

PTSO OFFICERS FOR 2009/2010

If you are interested in a leadership position in the AMS Parent-Teacher-Student Organization, here is your opportunity.

President - runs board and general meetings, coordinates Back-to-School Supply Bags at Meet the Teacher, helps coordinate all PTSO activities throughout the year.

Secretary - attends board and general meetings, takes minutes at both types of meetings. Works on volunteer email database, is responsible for sending out PTSO emails throughout the year.

Treasurer - Kristine Collins has volunteered to continue in this position for the 2009/2010 school year. Thank you!

Hospitality - Plan one staff event per month, coordinate Patriotic Day breakfast, 8th grade promotion dance. Co-chairs are recommended for this position.

School Kidz Supply Boxes

The PTSO will NOT be selling supply bags at Meet the Teacher Night 2009. Instead, the PTSO will offer the School Kidz Supply box program. These are custom filled boxes put together by an outside company. They will be ordered this spring for delivery at Meet the Teacher Night in August. Please watch for more information coming soon.

Show Your Support of AMS With a Personalized Brick

The PTSO is paving the central courtyard with specially colored bricks which can be engraved with your child's or family's name. Now you can always be a part of Akimel A-al's history.

- Each brick can accommodate two lines with no more than 15 characters each.
- Bricks can be purchased for \$25 each.
- To purchase a brick complete this form and return it to AMS with your payment (Checks made payable to **AMS PTSO**. (No Cash Please))

Please **print** each line as you want it to appear on the brick. .
Fifteen characters maximum per line. Two lines per brick.

Line 1: _____

Line 2: _____

Name Phone Email

Child's Name Team/Pod \$ Total Check #

Student of the Month

Each month teachers from each academic team nominate one or two students for Student of the Month. In order to be considered for this honor, students must exhibit ongoing excellence in the areas of Academics, Conduct, Citizenship, and Responsibility. Informal ceremonies are held to present the students with their nomination form, a certificate, and a pin. Parents are invited to these ceremonies.

Congratulations to our February, 2009 Students of the Month:

TJ Banks, Jarod Bernat, Kiernan Burke, Debbie Chang, Sarah Cox, Zach Farran, Brendan Grossman, Kaitlin Heck, Tiffany Hill, Joe Lagas, Jenna Lee, Justin Lopez, Laura Myers, Princess Njemanze, Rachel Pearson, Gabrielle Rango, Maya Reisman, Julia Rosinski, Tate Tong

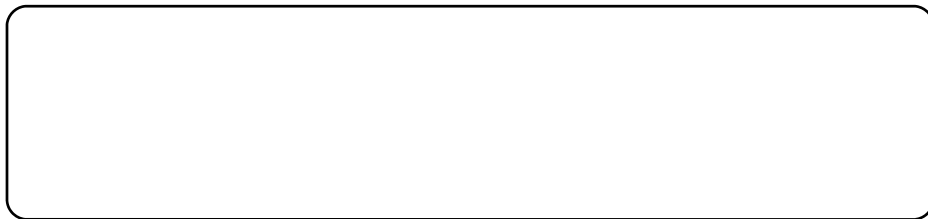
photos can be found on the AMS website at www.kyrene.org/schools/Akimel/ams.htm



::: MARCH & APRIL 2009 :::

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT/SUN
3/2 4:30 pm Baseball @ Altadena Basketball @ Altadena 	3/3 4:30 pm Track @ Altadena 7:30 pm ASU Astronomy Night (on AMS soccer field)	3/4 8th Grade Parent/Teacher Conferences P.T.S.O. Fundraiser @ Big Daddy's BBQ 4:30 pm Baseball vs. Pueblo @ home Basketball vs. Pueblo @ home	3/5 4:30 pm Track vs. Centennial @ home 6:00 pm Chorus Concerts, MPR 7:00 pm HATB Meeting, Library	3/6 8A Field Trip to Maricopa Superior Court	3/7-8 Mini Town (3/7 & 8)
SPRING BREAK - March 9 - 13					
3/16	3/17 7A Field Trip: State Capitol 4:15 pm Vision Decision Team Mtg 4:30 pm Baseball @ KMS Basketball @ KMS	3/18 4:30 pm Baseball @ Centennial Basketball @ Centennial 4:30 pm Baseball @ CMS ← Basketball @ CMS	3/19 6A Field Trip to Skateland 4:30 pm Track vs. KMS @ home HATB: Students from Sister School Visiting (3/18-22) →	3/20	3/21-22 Saturday HATB Fiesta MPR
3/23 Report Cards Distributed 4:30 pm Baseball vs. Aprende @ home Basketball vs. Aprende @ home 7:00 pm Jazz & Wind Ensemble Concert, MPR	3/24 7:15 am Track Pictures 6C Field Trip to Skateland 7:00 pm Governing Board Meeting, District Office	3/25 9:00 am Student of the Month 4:30 pm Baseball vs. Altadena @ home Basketball vs. Altadena @ home Band Concerts, MPR 6pm 6th Gr; 7 pm 7th Gr; 8 pm 8th Gr	3/26 6B Field Trip: Skateland Chorus, Band & Orchestra to Anaheim, CA → 4:30 pm Track @ Aprende 6:30 pm Battle of the Books, Library	3/27 8th Grade Art Field Trip: Tempe Festival of the Arts	3/28-29
3/30  AIMS ASSESSMENT 4:30 PM Baseball @ Pueblo Basketball @ Pueblo	3/31 AIMS ASSESSMENT 4:30 pm 6th Grade Track @ Kyrene	4/1 AIMS ASSESSMENT 2:30 pm Baseball & Basketball Pictures 4:30 pm Baseball v. CMS @ home Basketball v. CMS @ home	4/2 AIMS ASSESSMENT 4:30 pm Track v. Pueblo @ home	4/3 Science Assessment	4/4-5
4/6 Math Field Test 4:30 pm Baseball @ Aprende Basketball @ Aprende	4/7 4:30 pm 6th Grade Track @ Pueblo	4/8 4:30 pm Baseball v. Kyrene @ home Basketball v. Kyrene @ home	4/9 4:30 pm Track v. Altadena @ home	4/10 NO SCHOOL	4/11-12
4/13 4:30 pm Baseball & Basketball Tournaments	4/14 8th Gr Panoramic Picture 7:00 pm Governing Board Meeting	4/15  4:30 pm Track Conference Meet 5:30—7:00 pm Incoming Sixth Grade Orientation, MPR	4/16	4/17  9:30 am Patriotic Day Celebration	4/18-19
4/20 CASS EOG Assessment	4/21 CASS-EOG Assessment	4/22 CASS-EOG Assessment Make-Up	4/23 7:00 pm HATB End of Year Meeting, MPR	4/24 8th Grade Oceanography Trip (4/24-26)	4/25-26
4/27 MSS-EOG Assessment	4/28 MSS-EOG Assessment	4/29 MSS-EOG Assessment Make-Up 9:00 am Student of the Month	4/30	5/1 7:00 pm Spring Drama Performance	5/2 5:00 pm Spring Drama Performance 

Kyrene School District #28
Akimel A-al Middle School
8700 S. Kyrene Road
Tempe, AZ 85284



KYRENE SCHOOL DISTRICT VISION

Kyrene’s vision is to prepare all students to meet future educational and life challenges in order to make positive contributions to society.

KYRENE SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION

To realize our vision, Kyrene seeks to inspire and engage our diverse community of students, staff, families and citizens to ensure continuous academic achievement and personal growth for every student.

Intel Involved Matching Grants Program

Intel Foundation matches each employee volunteer hour at a school with a \$10/hr grant to the school, after a minimum of 20 hours is accumulated. Annual payout to each school is unlimited. At a recent Kyrene Parent/Superintendent Meeting a representative from Intel presented information in the hopes of increasing Intel’s support for all Kyrene schools this year. Flyers were handed out and are now available in our office. If you or someone you know would like to know more about this program, please go to <http://www.intel.com/community/arizona/education.htm>.

For more info contact: Katherine Princic, Intel Corporation, Corporate Affairs, phone: 480-554-5174,
www.intel.com/community/arizona

2008-2009 Asbestos Notification

This notice is in compliance with 40 CFR Part 763.93 (g) (4).

While we do not have an asbestos issue in Kyrene, per the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s “Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act” [(AHERA) 40CFR Part 763], every school district must have a plan in place to deal with potential issues. Please be advised that an Asbestos Inspection Report and Management Plan has been developed for each school and building in the Kyrene School District.

The Principal at each school maintains a copy of the Asbestos Management Plan in the Administrative Office, and the plan is also available for review at each school during normal school hours. Additionally, a copy of each plan is kept by the Facilities Department at 8700 S. Kyrene Rd., Tempe, AZ. 85284. If you have questions or concerns regarding Kyrene’s plan, please contact Mr. Giacomo (Jack) Musella, Facilities Supervisor.

To keep the plan current, as required by the U.S.E.P.A., a complete survey and inspection of all Kyrene schools is conducted every six months by properly-trained and accredited individuals



AKIMEL A-AL MIDDLE SCHOOL

2720 East Liberty Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85048
Tel: 480-783.1600 | Fax: 480.759.7688
www.kyrene.org/schools/akimel/ams.htm

ADMINISTRATION

Ernie Brodersen, Principal
Doug Olson, Assistant Principal, 8th Grade
Joe Bonamo, Student Advisor, 7th Grade
Chris Kaluzny, Student Advisor, 6th Grade