

RATTLELER

KYRENE AKIMEL A-AL MIDDLE SCHOOL
FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Tales

Volume 17, Issue 1

An Arizona Department of Education 'Excelling' School 2003-2007

July, 2008

Welcome to Akimel A-al Middle School & the 2008/2009 School Year

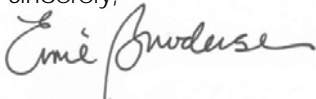
Welcome to the 2008/2009 school year. We sincerely want each student at AMS to have one of the happiest, most exciting, and academically challenging years of his/her educational experience. The teachers, administrative team, and support personnel will work very hard to see that each student finds academic success and a sense of community at our school.

This issue of the Rattler Tales includes information about upcoming events, including **Meet the Teacher Night**. It also gives you information about what you can expect your child to bring home on the first day of school. An additional, more in-depth issue of the Rattler Tales will be distributed with your child on the first day of school.

We know that you share our enthusiasm and high expectations for your child's academic achievement and personal growth and that you are as excited as we are about the coming year's successes.

Thank you for choosing to send your child to Akimel A-al Middle School.

Sincerely,



Ernie Brodersen
Principal

What's in a name?

Akimel A-al is the fourth of six middle schools in the Kyrene School District. The name is from the language of Akimel O'odham (Pima) People and means "Children of the River." It is pronounced "Ah' key mahl." When we write the school's name, we always include the "A-al." To leave it off changes the meaning of the school's name. The name was chosen to honor the Akimel O'odham people. There are fifty square miles of Akimel O'odham land in the Kyrene School District — a part of the large Gila River Indian Reservation. This land was included as part of the Kyrene School District in 1956. The Akimel O'odham Native American students from the Gila River Reservation attend Akimel A-al. We take great pride in our school's name and its history.



RATTLER CREED

We promote academic excellence by providing a quality environment which fosters relevant, life-long learning for our community. We honor: trust, accountability, enthusiasm, communication, growth, professionalism, respect, and diversity.

Meet The Teachers

Akimel A-al Middle School students and families will have an opportunity to meet their teachers and tour the campus during Meet the Teacher Night on Wednesday, July 30, 2008, 5:00-7:00 pm. Teachers will be available in their classrooms and pod areas.

Also available during Meet the Teacher Night:

- Cafeteria personnel will be on hand so that parents can open and/or add money to their child's lunch account.
- PE uniforms will be available for sale.
- Yearbooks can be ordered for the lowest price of the year.

Student Schedules

Student schedules will be available for pick-up on Wednesday, July 30th, in the school office from 8:00-10:00 am and in the multipurpose room at 4:30 pm, prior to Meet the Teacher night.

Schedules have been determined based upon a student's academic needs. Due to the complexity of the master schedule, team/teacher changes cannot be made. Changes to an exploratory will only be considered if space is available.

Schedules are checked carefully for accuracy. However, if you feel there is an error on your child's schedule (i.e., incorrect math or language arts level, a missing period), your point of contact is:

6th Grade	Chris Kaluzny ckaluz@kyrene.org
7th Grade	Joe Bonamo jbonam@kyrene.org
8th Grade	Doug Olson dolson@kyrene.org

To speak with or make an appointment to meet with one of the grade level administrators, please call: 480-783-1691.

Bus Schedules

Bus schedules will be available for pick-up in the school office during office hours, at the Meet the Teacher night on July 30th, and on the school's website.



The most current bus schedule information will be found on the Kyrene Transportation Department's website: www.kyrene.org/transportation

Fall Sports



The Fall Sports Season begins **September 3rd**. Announcements regarding informational meetings with the coaches will be included in morning announcements and will be available on the school website.

Sports paperwork will be due to Student Services in the school office no later than Friday **August 8th**. Try-outs will begin the week of **August 11th**. Students will need a current physical (within one calendar year) on file in order to try-out and participate.

Physico Health Assessments will offer sports physicals on Kyrene campuses at a cost of \$25. To schedule an appointment, go to www.physico2go.com. Physicals will be held on Tue, Aug 5 (Cenennial/Aprende), Wed, Aug 6 (Akimel A-al/Pueblo), and Thu, Aug 7 (Kyrene/Altadeña) from 4:00-7:00 pm.

For questions regarding school athletics, please contact Geri Dempsey, AMS Student Services Secretary, at gdemps@kyrene.org or 480-783-1691.

Upcoming Events



Curriculum Night

A Curriculum Night will be held on **August 13th**, 6:00—8:00 pm. The purpose of this evening is to give parents an opportunity to learn more about the curriculum which will be taught to and the team expectations for your child this school year.

Ice Cream Social

The AMS Ice Cream Social will be held on **August 27th**, 5:30—7:00 pm. This is a fun community event. We invite your family to join us.

School Pictures

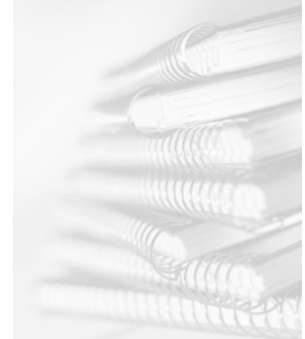
Photographers will be on campus to take school photos on Friday, **August 22nd**. Order forms will be distributed to students in Academic Lab approximately one week prior to picture day.

SUGGESTED SUPPLY LISTS

AMS teachers suggest the following supplies to help your child be organized and prepared for learning. With the exception of those marked with an asterisk, these items are available in the [PTSO School Supply Bags](#).

Sixth Grade

- 13 pocket accordion Folder
- 1 1 inch binder
- 3 packs of dividers
- 1 spiral notebook
- 1 pack of wide rule paper (continuous supply all year)
- 1 package of #2 pencils
- 1 package of pens
- 1 pack of colored pencils
- 1 pink pearl eraser
- 1 package of highlighters
- 1 ruler
- 1 glue stick
- 1 package of crayons
- 1 pencil sharpener



* If you are on 6 C they request 4 additional spiral notebooks (this will not be in our supply bags that we will be selling on Meet the teacher)

Seventh Grade

- 1 1 ½ inch binder
- 6 2 pocket folders
- 3 spiral notebooks
- 1 pack of wide rule paper (continuous supply all year)
- 1 package of #2 pencils
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 package of pens
- 1 package of Colored pencils
- 1 Pink Pearl eraser
- 1 package of highlighters
- 1 ruler
- 1 glue stick

Eighth Grade

- 2 3 inch binders
- 1 package of dividers
- 2 composition books
- 1 package of #2 pencils
- 1 package of pens
- 1 package of colored pencils
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 Pink Pearl eraser
- 1 package of highlighters
- 1 ruler
- 1 glue stick
- 1 protractor
- 1 package of college rule binder paper (continuous supply all year)

Exploratory Classes

Students will need to have a folder or section within their notebook/accordion file designated for their exploratory class work and information. Students will also need to be prepared with pens, pencils, erasers, and notebook paper. There will be requests for specialty items depending upon the exploratory class.

RATTLER TALES

The Rattler Tales is published and distributed to students at the beginning of each month. It is also available on-line at www.kyrene.org/schools/Akimel/ams.htm

AKIMEL A-AL MIDDLE SCHOOL

2720 East Liberty Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85048
Tel: 480-783.1600 | Fax: 480.759.7688

ADMINISTRATION

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

First Day Materials





On the first day of school, your child will receive a number of papers for you to read, complete, sign, and return to the school. Please ask your child for the following:

- Emergency Card (complete and return)
- Technology Agreement (complete and return)
- Electronic Devices Agreement (complete and return)
- Student Accident & Health Insurance Brochure
- Free & Reduced Lunch Application
- August Newsletter (for your information)
- Student Agenda/Handbook
- Verification of Receipt (complete and return)
- A/B Schedule (included in agenda)

If your child is missing any of these items, please contact your child's Academic Lab teacher or the school office at 480-783-1600.



::: AUGUST 2007 :::

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT/SUN
		7/30 8:00—10:00 am Student Schedule Pick-Up, Office 8:00—10:00 am & 12:00—4:00 pm Office Open 4:30 pm Student Schedule Pick-Up, Gym 5:00—7:00 pm Meet the Teachers	7/31 12:00—4:00 pm Office Open	8/1 8:00 am—4:00 pm Office Open	8/2-3
8/4  First Day of School	8/5	8/6 Early Release (every Wednesday)	8/7	8/8 Rattler Spirit Day (every Friday)  Fall Sports Paperwork Due	8/9-10
8/11 Fall Sports Try Outs Begin	8/12 7:00 pm Kyrene Governing Board Meeting, District Office	8/13 Early Release (every Wednesday) 6:00—8:00 pm Curriculum Night (all grades)	8/14	8/15 Rattler Spirit Day (every Friday)	8/16-17
8/18	8/19	8/20 Early Release (every Wednesday)	8/21	8/22 Rattler Spirit Day (every Friday) School Pictures	8/23-24
8/25	8/26 7:00 pm Kyrene Governing Board Meeting, District Office	8/27 Early Release (every Wednesday) 5:30—7:30 pm Ice Cream Social (community event) 	8/28	8/29 Rattler Spirit Day (every Friday)	8/30-31
9/1 No School Labor Day Holiday	9/2	9/3 Early Release (every Wednesday) Fall Sports Season Begins	9/4	9/5 Rattler Spirit Day (every Friday) 	9/6-7

Rattler Tales

On the first day of school, your child will receive the August issue of the Rattler Tales. This issue of the school newsletter will include in-depth, important information which should be useful to you throughout the school year. The school newsletter is issued monthly and distributed to students in their Academic Lab class. Each issue is also available on line at: www.kyrene.org/schools/akimel/ams.htm



2008/2009 School Hours

Mon-Tue-Thu-Fri 8:55 am—3:55 pm
Wed 8:55 am—2:25 pm

The first bell rings at 8:51 am. At 8:55 am, all students are expected to be in class and ready to begin the day.

Absences

If your child will be absent the first day (or more) of school, please call our attendance reporting line at 480-783-1697 to report his/her absence.



Have you moved?

If you have moved over the summer, please notify the school office so that we may update your information in our student system. You may do so by contacting our school registrar, Laurie Stogsdill, at 480-783-1600 or by email at lstogs@kyrene.org. You will need to provide a copy of a utility bill or purchase/rental/lease agreement.



Kyrene Elementary School District #28
Kyrene Akimel A-al Middle School
8700 South 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.

PE Uniforms

Physical Education uniforms will be available for sale at Meet the Teacher Night on July 30th. Uniforms may be purchased with cash or check.

School Lunch

Each student will have his/her own personal meal account. When your child enters his/her ID number at the cash register, the cost of the meal is deducted from his/her account. Parents may add money to a child's lunch account with cash or a check made payable to the Kyrene School District. Cafeteria representatives will be on hand during Meet the Teacher Night should you wish to add money to your child's account at that time. You may also add money through the Food Service website at: www.kyrene.org/ksdportal/foodservice

Yearbook

Order your yearbook at Meet the Teacher Night and get it for the lowest price of the year! Order forms will be available in the Computer Technology classroom, Room B5. The cost of the yearbook on July 30th only will be \$28.00.



SCHOOL TSHIRTS

Every Friday is School Spirit Day.
Show your spirit with an AMS T-Shirt

On Sale at Meet the Teacher Night
\$10

Back to School Supply Bags

sponsored by the AMS Parent-Teacher-Student Organization

Back to School Bags, full of many of the school supplies you child will need to start the school year, will be available at Meet the Teacher Night on July 30th. The AMS PTSO uses profits earned from the sale of these bags to support activities at AMS.



- 6th Grade Bag: \$20
- 7th Grade Bag: \$20
- 8th Grade Bag: \$25

School T-Shirts will be available for sale for \$10!

