



June 19, 2020

Dear Kyrene Families,

During the Governing Board meeting on June 9, the District shared a first look at the Safe Return to School plan. Included in this presentation was the introduction of three enrollment options that allow families to choose between in-person and distance learning. In an effort to support all families, Kyrene School District will continue to provide in-person instruction in each of our schools, with preventive measures in place, as well as include additional choice for families who want to support education at home through distance learning options.

Families who are seeking a *change* in their child's learning for the 2020-21 school year are requested to take action by JULY 3, in order to guarantee a spot in their choice option.

No action is required for families who are currently registered/enrolled for school and are planning to attend school in-person. This includes returning students who were promoted to their next grade level. However, if you are a current family with a new kindergartener, don't forget to enroll your newest Kyrene kid!

To help you determine whether distance learning is an option for your child, be sure to read the information below and also visit our website at www.kyrene.org/safestrong. Questions about enrollment can be directed to enrollment@kyrene.org.

Kyrene Digital Academy and Kyrene Flex

Applications for distance learning will remain open for all families throughout the year, at any time, and will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. In an effort to ensure staffing, capacity will be verified before placement is made. Eligibility for placement may also be contingent upon open enrollment policies, where applicable.

The district will guarantee a spot for all families who register for Kyrene Digital Academy or sign up for Flex Distance Learning by July 3.

Kyrene Digital Academy is a school option for families seeking full-time digital learning for the entire school year. Kyrene Flex is an option for families who are seeking *temporary* placement in distance learning.

Kyrene Digital Academy

Now through July 3

The District will commit to all families who enroll by July 3. Students signed up for Kyrene Digital Academy will be enrolled for the year.

After July 3

The Kyrene Digital Academy will remain open for enrollment throughout the year. Placement will be made based on capacity, and on a first come, first served basis. Start dates will be shared with families upon completed registration.

- **What if my child was originally enrolled as a nonresident or resident transfer pupil at an in-person school and wants to return to that school in 2020-21 or 2021-22?** Students who have nonresident or resident transfer status in 2020-21 who wish to return to in-person instruction will maintain their standing and be placed the same as any open-enrolled student who remains at the in-person school for the current year as well as 2020-21.

Kyrene Flex

Kyrene Flex is a temporary, or short-term, placement in distance learning. Students are expected to participate in Flex from the date placement occurs through the end of the active quarter.

Families will be requested to confirm school placement prior to close of the quarter. Note: Students who enroll in the last three weeks of any quarter will be rolled into the next quarter's placement automatically.

Placement will typically be made the week following a request. Students should continue to complete assignments with their in-person teachers until placement in distance learning occurs.

Now through July 3

The District will commit to all families who enroll by July 3. Students signed up for Flex will start the year in distance learning and continue through the first quarter, with an option to remain for an additional interval.

After July 3

Families are welcome to request placement in Kyrene Flex at any time throughout the year, subject to capacity.

Each quarter, families will be asked to confirm student placement for the next quarter approximately three weeks prior to the close of the current quarter. The District will send messages to families on the following dates: September 18, November 27 and February 12.

- **What if my child wants to return to in-person learning before the end of an interval?** Students are encouraged to complete the quarter in distance learning before returning to school in-person. However, exceptions may be made.
 - **What if my student was attending this school as a nonresident or resident transfer student?** Students enrolled in Flex will maintain their open enrollment status for the school they are enrolled in. Students wishing to change schools to a different in-person assignment will need to follow standard enrollment procedures.
 - **Why isn't the transition to distance learning immediate?** In an effort to ensure staffing after July 3, placement is dependent on adequate staffing. Families will be notified within five business days of the submitted request of eligibility for starting distance learning.
 - **Can families excuse students from their in-person school while waiting for placement in distance learning?** Families have the authority to excuse absences in alignment with board policy. Students will continue to complete assignments with their in-person teachers.
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Quarter 1 Examples

Initial placement occurs before September 18.

Students placed in Kyrene Flex any time during Quarter 1 and before September 18 will be asked to confirm their preference for Quarter 2 placement towards the end of the active quarter. Families may choose to either continue placement in Flex or transition to either in-person learning or Kyrene Digital Academy with the beginning of the next quarter.

Initial placement occurs within the last three weeks of a quarter.

If a family signs up after September 18, students will be placed at that time but also rostered for Quarter 2, without having to confirm continued placement in Quarter 2. Toward the end of second quarter, this family will be asked to confirm continued placement in Flex or be offered the opportunity to transition to either in-person learning or Kyrene Digital Academy with the beginning of the next quarter.

For more information about Kyrene's Safe Return to School plan, including FAQs about all options, visit www.kyrene.org/safestrong. To begin or change enrollment, visit www.kyrene.org/enrollment.

Sincerely,

Kyrene School District
www.kyrene.org

Our Vision: All students achieve at their maximum potential to become problem-solvers, creators, and visionaries of tomorrow.

Our Mission: Kyrene School District will commit to student success for all, by providing engaging, challenging educational environments which promote and inspire passion for learning, leading, and achieving transformative life outcomes.

LEARNING. LEADING. ACHIEVING.

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