



## Safe Return to School Update: Bell Schedule and School Calendar

June 24, 2020

Dear Kyrene Community,

Thank you for staying connected as Kyrene School District continues to develop plans for a Safe Return to School. Those plans remain flexible and will continue to evolve, to adapt to the changing landscape of the COVID-19 pandemic. As I shared last week, all Kyrene decisions are based on science and medical expertise, not on politics or popular opinion.

Building a Safe Return to School plan is like putting together a 5,000-piece puzzle. The pieces do not come out of the box and all fall into place. My team and I are reading every single one of your emails. If your question is not yet answered, please know that it is not for lack of consideration. On the contrary, some questions demand closer scrutiny and more time to develop detailed solutions.

Today, we have several updates to share with our Kyrene community. In addition to the information below, I encourage you to visit [www.kyrene.org/safestrong](http://www.kyrene.org/safestrong) to view the June 23 Governing Board presentation, in which we shared new details about school safety measures, Special Education protocols, and teacher training.

I remain grateful for your passion and commitment to returning our children safely to school.

Sincerely,

Jan Vesely, Ed.D.

## 2020-21 Calendar

On June 23, the Kyrene Governing Board voted to make the school year calendar flexible, so that the Superintendent will be able to take swift action to adjust the calendar, if necessary, in response to COVID-19 developments. Should the District decide to delay the start of school or make any other calendar changes, families and staff will be informed immediately.

**At this time**, there will be no changes to the Kyrene School District 2020-21 calendar. The first day of school remains July 30, and fall break remains on the calendar.

## Bell Schedule Adjustments

Kyrene School District will be moving forward with adjustments to school hours for the 2020-21 school year, including the elimination of early-release Wednesdays and slightly shortened school days.

The following bell schedule will be in effect Monday-Friday:

	Start Time	End Time
<b>Early-start Elementary/K-8 Schools</b>	7:30 a.m. <i>(no change)</i>	1:45 p.m. <i>(previously 2:30)</i>
<b>Late-start Elementary Schools</b>	9:10 a.m. <i>(previously 8:50)</i>	3:25 p.m. <i>(previously 3:50)</i>
<b>Middle Schools</b>	8:20 a.m. <i>(previously 8:10)</i>	2:35 p.m. <i>(previously 3:10)</i>

This information is also updated on [our website](#).

## Registration Reminder

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Families seeking one of Kyrene's distance learning options for the 2020-21 school year are asked 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. Questions about enrollment can be directed to [enrollment@kyrene.org](mailto:enrollment@kyrene.org).

## Summer Office Hours Update

All school offices remain closed for the summer. The Kyrene School District main office will remain closed to walk-in visitors through July 17. The District Office will open to the public on July 20.

As a reminder, Kyrene offers online registration at [www.kyrene.org/enrollment](http://www.kyrene.org/enrollment). If you are unable to use the online registration portal for any reason, in-person summer registration is available at the District Office by appointment only. In-person registration appointments may be arranged by phone:

- Tempe, Chandler elementary schools: (480) 541-1551
- Phoenix (Ahwatukee) elementary schools: (480) 541-1552
- All middle schools: (480) 541-1555

### Online Updates

Hundreds of individuals are working around the clock to design solutions and to develop answers to frequently asked questions. The following information has been added or updated on [www.kyrene.org/safestrong](http://www.kyrene.org/safestrong) in the past week:

- [Community Education FAQs](#) (preschool and before/after school questions)
- [Communications Catalog](#) (all District messages related to the Safe Return to School)
- Expanded answers to FAQs on the following pages:
  - [In-Person Learning](#)
  - [Flex Distance Learning](#)
  - [Kyrene Digital Academy](#)

A web page devoted to information exclusively for Kyrene employees will be available later this week. Thank you for your patience as Kyrene teams work to provide answers to the hundreds of questions we are receiving from both families and staff.

New questions may be sent to [kco@kyrene.org](mailto:kco@kyrene.org) and will be shared with the appropriate design groups for consideration.

**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.

---

(480) 541-1000 | [www.kyrene.org](http://www.kyrene.org)



---

Kyrene School District would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Kyrene School District directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.