As time draws near for the end of your child’s middle school years, we look forward to celebrating with them in many end of the year activities. This newsletter contains important information regarding this year’s events and celebrations in hopes that it will assist you in your planning and preparation. Please read through this newsletter with your child so that you are aware of all expectations for students to be able to participate in each event. Sign and return all attached forms regarding the end of year events to verify that you have read and that you fully understand the contents of this newsletter. If you have any questions regarding 8th grade events, please contact Lyle Whigham at lwhigh@kyrene.org or call 480.541.6000.

Student Participation Eligibility

It is our best hope that all 8th graders will be participating in all of the end of the year activities. Beginning the week following Spring Break, the eligibility to participate in these events will be checked for all 8th grade students. The procedure for notification of any ineligible students will be:

Beginning **Friday, March 27th**, any 8th grade student found to be ineligible because of having the grade of an “F”, displaying inappropriate behavior in any class or not returning library books, textbooks or athletic uniforms on time will be notified that they are on a “Warning” week. The student has one week to raise their grade and/or improve their behavior. The teacher for that class will notify the student that they are on a warning week. The teacher will contact the parent and they will complete a Participation Eligibility Ticket to be sent home. If there is no improvement the following week, the teacher will then place the student on the ineligible list and follow the same notification procedure. Once improvement has been made, the student will become eligible again.

The staff at Altadeña will make every effort to work with all students who have been given a “Warning” week or who are ineligible to raise their grades or improve their behavior.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

- **Friday, April 17, 2015**: Enclosed Permission Forms Due to Home Base Teacher
- **May 1, 2015**: Notifications of non-participation in End of Year Dance
- **May 8, 2015**: 8th Grade End of Year Dance; 6:30-8:30pm, Altadeña MPR
- **May 11, 12 & 14, 2015**: Individual Team Celebration of Learning (see enclosed article)
- **May 15, 2015**: Notification of non-participation in Big Surf Outing
- **May 19, 2015**: Individual Team Promotion Ceremonies; Gym (see enclosed article)
- **May 20, 2015**: All 8th Grade to Big Surf; 9:00am—4:30 pm
- **May 21, 2015**: Last Day of Middle School—Early Release Day
At the Celebration of Learning, students will be recognized for their outstanding achievement and extraordinary performance both academically and socially during the 2014-2015 school year. Class awards will be presented during the assemblies. The President’s Education awards, along with several scholarships, community and school awards will be awarded at the promotion ceremony.

Awards are given for outstanding achievement in all subject areas. The teachers and administration work together to determine the criteria for the awards.

We invite all interested parents to attend this event. Each team Celebration of Learning will take place during the school day and teams will notify parents of the exact times in the near future. We look forward to celebrating all of the wonderful accomplishments of the 8th graders.

This is a special evening for 8th grade students as a celebration of their upcoming promotion. Altadeña Middle School promotes age-appropriate activities for students. This dance is for Altadeña Middle School eighth grade students only. No student visitors may attend.

In accordance with our middle school philosophy, please understand that the 8th grade dance is not a "prom!" As with promotion, we ask your cooperation in making sure that our students wear age-appropriate clothing for the dance. Prom-type dresses and tuxedos are not appropriate. The dress code for the eighth grade promotion dance should follow the dress guidelines as listed on page 23 of our Family Handbook: While the dress for this dance tends to be “dressier” than the other dances and socials, we ask that attire remain conservative.

Girls may wear a dress, or skirt or slacks with a blouse. Dresses or other outfits that are strapless, or expose the chest, abdomen, or lower back are examples of clothing that do not meet the school dress code. A strapless dress with a shawl is not acceptable. Clothing must be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times.

Casual or dress slacks, a shirt with a collar or a dress shirt is suggested for boys. A tie and jacket are optional. A tuxedo would not be considered appropriate for this dance.

If a student arrives at the promotion ceremony and/or dance and is not in compliance with the dress code, he/she will not be allowed to participate.

We are asking for your cooperation, in advance, when helping your student choose their promotion outfit. We do not want families to be disappointed if their child is not allowed to participate.

There will be a photographer at the dance for those students who may want to have their photos taken. More information about this will come out as the dance approaches.

Please pick up your child promptly at 8:30 pm. No student will be allowed to leave the dance before 8:30 pm without a parent/guardian personally picking them up at the multi-purpose room.
On Wednesday, May 20th we have planned an activity day for our eighth grade students. We will spend the day at Big Surf Waterpark, a water park in Tempe at 1500 N McClintock Rd. Students will have access to all water activities at the park and snack bars. This is a normal required school day for all students. An 8th grade staff member will be on campus to supervise any student who does not attend.

We will leave school at approximately 9:00 AM. The cost per student is $15.00 (checks only please payable to Altadeña Middle School). This cost includes the admission to the waterpark for the day, a hamburger, chips and drink meal and transportation to and from the park. Should you have concerns due to financial difficulties, please contact Mr. Whigham at 480-541-6000.

Students who have been notified they are ineligible to participate and students who are assigned to ISI on Friday, May 15th are not allowed to attend this outing. Final decisions will be made by Friday, May 15, 2015 regarding students already on probation. Students and parents will be informed by notices given to the students. All students who are not allowed or choose to not attend this field trip can attend school and will be under the supervision of a teacher on campus.

For the students’ safety, students must remain at the water park all day, unless a parent or guardian comes to Big Surf and signs the student out. At the end of the event, the students will be transported from Big Surf and arrive at Altadeña at approximately 4:30 pm. Since our return will be after regular school hours, all students will need to be picked up at the school. We are looking forward to a fun-filled day.

Students need to bring money for snack food, drinks, boogie board rental and locker rental. Bringing food and beverages into the water park is strictly prohibited except for factory sealed water bottles.

Since we begin and end our day on campus, students must follow our dress code while here. Students should arrive to school wearing school appropriate clothing along with their bathing suit apparel.

Please fill out both sides of the permission form that is included with this newsletter. Permission forms and money must be returned to your child’s Home Base teacher by Friday, April 17, 2015.


### Promotion Certificates

Promotion Certificates will be mailed the first week in June along with fourth quarter Report Cards.
EDUCATIONAL STUDY TRIP PERMISSION & MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

Parent/Guardian: Please return this completed sheet to school

My signature below indicates that I have read the information contained in this document.

☐ approve / ☐ do not approve of __________________________ participate in the

(name of student)

Altadeña Middle School 8th Grade educational study trip to Big Surf Waterpark on Wednesday, May 20, 2015

☐ If disapprove, I direct that he/she participate in the alternative learning experience at school.

The cost for this trip is $15.00 per student (checks only made payable to Altadeña Middle School).

I understand that the District’s liability coverage only applies to injury if negligence is proved against the District, and if the terms and conditions of the contractual liability coverage provided in favor of the District have been met. In all other circumstances, the student should seek coverage from his/her own healthcare insurer, and/or the negligent third party responsible for causing the injury.

I am aware that classroom students are the only students allowed on the trip. No other students, siblings or guests may accompany volunteers or supervisors.

In case of accident or serious illness, I request that the school/trip leader contact me. If I cannot be reached, I hereby authorize the school/trip leader to call the physician or hospital indicated below and follow his/her/its instructions. If it is not possible to contact this physician/hospital, the school/trip leader may make whatever medical arrangements are necessary. If there are any special instructions regarding medical treatment of my child, including any information regarding allergies or drug reactions, I have included the information below on the “Special instructions” line.

I have legal custody or control of my child and grant permission for any emergency treatment and/or hospital services that may be rendered to said child under the general or specific direction of:

Name of doctor or hospital emergency department: ________________________________

Telephone number of doctor or hospital: (____) ______-__________

Special instructions: __________________________________________________________________

Parent/legal guardian name: ___________________________ Phone#: (____) ___-_______

(Please print)

Home address: ___________________________________________________________________________

Signature of parent/legal guardian: __________________________________________________________

Revised 6/4/13

Please return this signed form and payment to your child’s Home Base teacher by Friday, April 17, 2015

Checks Only payable to Altadeña Middle School