



August 2023

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## Message from the Principal

Hello Sierra Suns!

We've had a terrific start to our 2023/2024 school year! It was great to see so many of you at Meet the Teacher Night on July 17th. The hallways, classrooms and MPR were full of families! And thank you as we have tackled our weather and have adjusted our recess and parent pick-up procedures due to heat advisories. Hopefully, over the next few weeks we will be able to go back to "normal".

There are several events planned for August with a few restaurant nights and our yearly Curriculum nights to look forward to. See the opportunity and be sure to check out the calendar and contents of the newsletter to keep up to date.

Sincerely,  
Brian Gibson, Principal

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## Upcoming Events

- JUL 31-AUG 2: Gifted Testing
- AUG 8: Curriculum Night, Special Areas, Kinder, 4th and 5th, 5:00pm-7:00pm
- AUG 8: Governing Board Meeting (Aprende), 6:00pm
- AUG 10: Curriculum Night, Preschool, 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 5:00pm-7:00pm
- AUG 16: Barro's Restaurant Night, 10:30am-10:00pm
- AUG 22: Governing Board Meeting, 6:00pm
- AUG 25: Early Release, Planning for Student Needs, 12:15pm
- AUG 25: Bingo Night, 5:30pm-8:00pm
- AUG 29: PTO Community Connection Meeting, 6:00pm
- AUG 30: Chipotle Restaurant Night, 4:00pm-8:00pm

[View Full Calendar](#)



**Updating Address and/or Emergency Contacts:** Every family is asked at the beginning of the year to go to their ParentVUE account and review their address, emergency contacts and other demographic information to be sure the student system is kept current. Please login to [ParentVUE](#) and choose the "Health, Emergency & Address Information Update" packet to review your student's information and update as necessary.

**Reporting Absences:** All student absences must be reported to the Attendance Line within the first 2 hours of the school day. To report an absence please call 480.541.5201. This is a 24 hour/per day attendance line. If your student will be late to school please call the attendance line or call the office at 480.541.5200. Absences reported to the teacher are helpful, however to have an excused absence, it must be reported to the office or attendance line. If you child is not called out of school an unexcused absence or truancy will be applied.

**Absent from After School Programs:** If your student will not be attending their after school program or enrichment class please make sure to notify the program, teacher and school office. The office is the first place that the after school programs check with if they are missing a student.

**Change The Way Your Student Goes Home:** If there is a change in the way your student will go home on the same day, please email the classroom teacher before 10:30am. If after 10:30am please call the office, 480.541.5200. Teachers may not see emails from parents later in the day.

**Lost and Found:** Please make sure all lunch boxes, water bottles, jackets, sweaters and sweatshirts are labeled with your child's name so they can be returned. Our Lost and Found overflows at the end of each quarter and items not claimed are donated to the Kyrene Family Resource Center.



## Welcome to the new school year

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**Stay Informed Via Text Messages:** If you care to receive text messages from Sierra and Kyrene School District, please opt in by texting "Y" or "Yes" to 67587. See the Communications and Engagement [website](#) for more information regarding email and text message communication.

**Curriculum Nights:** Our annual Curriculum Nights are next week on August 8 and August 10. Please see the attached [flyer](#) for grade level specific dates and times. As a reminder, this event is for parents/guardians only and we respectfully ask that you prearrange child care.

**Morning Drop-Off and Afternoon Pick-Up Procedures:** Please take time to review our current [Morning Drop-Off and Afternoon Pick-Up Procedures](#).

- If you are walking your child to/from school please utilize the marked crosswalks and refrain from crossing mid-way. It may take a few extra minutes but our crossing guards are there to ensure that you and your child make it safely across the street.
  - When entering our parking lots please pull as far forward as you can and stay in your car. This will allow for vehicles behind you to pull in and decrease the traffic in the street. Please DO NOT let your child out in the street. If you prefer to stay away from the parking lot, the bus bay is available, after the buses leave, for you to pull in to and drop your student off.
  - If you choose to pull in and park, please note that there are several spots that are designated for Preschool parking only. Please respect these spots and refrain from using them if you do not have preschoolers.
  - The current procedure for afternoon pick-up is as follows (this will be for as long as we have heat advisories), all bus-riders are **released at the bell** to board the school bus, all walkers, bike riders and parent pick-up walk-ups or those that are meeting their parents on the grass are **released at the bell** and all parent pick-up car-line pick ups are **released when their name is called** by the staff on duty. Please help us by communicating the preferred pick-up method for your child to the classroom teacher. If you are in the car-line **please leave your sign in the car window until your child has entered your vehicle**. This will help us expedite the process and get your student to you quickly.
  - If you park and walk to pick-up your child after school **DO NOT PARK IN CROSSWALK ZONES**. Vehicles parking between the posted no parking/stopping signs are in violation of standard school traffic zone laws and are subject to fines. Please know that the safety of your student is of the utmost importance and crossing guards are there to guide families safely across the street.
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## Community Education Enrichment Classes

Kyrene School District offers After School programs and Preschool at Sierra. Please visit the [Community Education](#) webpage to see the current offerings and openings available at Sierra.

Please see that attached [flyer](#) for information on After School Enrichment programs starting soon at Sierra.



Food Services: Please visit the Food Services [website](#) for information on lunch payments, lunch balances, free or reduced lunch application and menus.

Click [here](#) for the August lunch menu. As a reminder, Sierra does not serve breakfast.

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## Fall Break - Sept. 25-Oct. 6

No school and the office will be closed

### Teacher Work Day - October 9

No school

School resumes on October 11, 2023

Looking for a fun, exciting learning experience for your child during break? Community Education has options.

[Fall Break Options](#)

## Contact Us

**Kyrene de la Sierra**  
1122 E. Liberty Lane  
Phoenix, AZ 85048

**Phone:** 480-541-5200  
**Fax:** 480-541-5210  
**Attendance:** 480-541-5201

**School Hours:** 7:30 am - 2:15 pm  
*Early Dismissal Wed: 12:15 pm*

**Office Hours:** 7:00 am - 3:30 pm  
*Wednesday: 7:00 am - 1:30 pm*

*National Blue Ribbon School*

