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July 10, 2023

Welcome to all of our new and returning Altadeña Panthers!

We hope that this summer has provided some time for rest, relaxation, and fun! We are excited to kick off the start to a brand new school year and know you are anxiously anticipating the first day of school as well!

Please see important information about **Meet the Teacher** below, as well as other school year updates.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

Juliet Riffenburg  
Kyrene Altadeña Principal



### **Meet the Teacher**

Meet the Teacher will look a little different this year, due to the earlier school start date. For Middle Schools, this will be held on Monday, July 17 from 1:00 - 4:00 pm. During **Meet the Teacher** families and students will follow the student's daily schedule starting with their advisory class. During each period, your child's teacher will have a short presentation specific to their class, before transitioning to the next period. It is important the schedule is followed in order to limit the number of individuals in any one area at a time. Since this is not an open-house event, we appreciate your help with not congregating and socializing inside the classrooms.

Gates will open at 12:45 PM with the first session beginning at 1:00 PM. As previously shared, students will first go to their Advisory teacher for a presentation about Altadeña and to learn more about their advisory period and school specific updates. The school bells will signal for families to transition to the next class for another curriculum presentation and to meet the next teacher. When families reach their student's lunch hour, families are welcome to visit the PTSO table, Panther athletics table, or our general inquiries table, located in the gym lobby and multi-purpose room.

Please see the bell schedule for Meet the Teacher below:

Meet the Teacher Bell Schedule											
6th grade	Start time	End time	Minutes	7th lunch	Start time	End time	Minutes	8th lunch	Start time	End time	Minutes
Advisory	1:00 PM	1:20 PM	20	Advisory	1:00 PM	1:20 PM	20	Advisory	1:00 PM	1:20 PM	20
Passing	1:20 PM	1:25 PM	5	Passing	1:20 PM	1:25 PM	5	Passing	1:20 PM	1:25 PM	5
Period 1	1:25 PM	1:40 PM	15	Period 1	1:25 PM	1:40 PM	15	Period 1	1:25 PM	1:40 PM	15
Passing	1:40 PM	1:45 PM	5	Passing	1:40 PM	1:45 PM	5	Passing	1:40 PM	1:45 PM	5
Period 2	1:45 PM	2:00 PM	15	Period 2	1:45 PM	2:00 PM	15	Period 2	1:45 PM	2:00 PM	15
Passing	2:00 PM	2:05 PM	5	Passing	2:00 PM	2:05 PM	5	Passing	2:00 PM	2:05 PM	5
Period 3	2:05 PM	2:20 PM	15	Period 3 Lunch	2:05 PM	2:20 PM	15	Period 3	2:05 PM	2:20 PM	15
Passing	2:20 PM	2:25 PM	5	Passing	2:20 PM	2:25 PM	5	Passing	2:20 PM	2:25 PM	5
Period 4 Lunch	2:25 PM	2:40 PM	15	Period 4	2:25 PM	2:40 PM	15	Period 4	2:25 PM	2:40 PM	15
Passing	2:40 PM	2:45 PM	5	Passing	2:40 PM	2:45 PM	5	Passing	2:40 PM	2:45 PM	5
Period 5	2:45 PM	3:00 PM	15	Period 5	2:45 PM	3:00 PM	15	Period 5 Lunch	2:45 PM	3:00 PM	15
Passing	3:00 PM	3:05 PM	5	Passing	3:00 PM	3:05 PM	5	Passing	3:00 PM	3:05 PM	5
Period 6	3:05 PM	3:20 PM	15	Period 6	3:05 PM	3:20 PM	15	Period 6	3:05 PM	3:20 PM	15
Passing	3:20 PM	3:25 PM	5	Passing	3:20 PM	3:25 PM	5	Passing	3:20 PM	3:25 PM	5
Period 7	3:25 PM	3:40 PM	15	Period 7	3:25 PM	3:40 PM	15	Period 7	3:25 PM	3:40 PM	15

We are encouraging students and parents to access schedules in advance through StudentVue and/or ParentVue. Student schedules will be available on Monday, July 17, after 10:00 AM. In an effort to save paper and reduce crowding, we will not be passing out paper copies of student schedules. Please consider adding the ParentVUE mobile app to your phone for easy access. If for some reason you cannot access your child's schedule through ParentVUE or StudentVUE please contact the Altadeña front office at 480-541-6000.

Families with students who are new to Kyrene this year will not have access to ParentVUE for their students until the first day of school. Office staff will be in the Multipurpose Room during Meet the Teacher to assist new families with accessing their student's schedule.

Schedule changes will only be considered in cases where a student is scheduled into a class that is the wrong level or missing a class. We will have schedule correction forms available for parents to submit if this is the case.

## ParentVUE Mobile App

The ParentVUE Mobile application helps parents stay informed and connected by providing day-to-day insight into their child's academic experience. ParentVUE Mobile for the iPhone/iPod Touch works with the Synergy™ student information system in much the same way as the ParentVUE web portal, allowing parents to access near real-time information on assignments and scores, attendance, and demographic information. ParentVUE offers parents a single sign-on to view all of their children's information regardless of school. Go to ParentVUE Mobile App for directions and login.

## Important: Sign up for Text Messages

In the event of an emergency, text messages are the fastest and most effective way to communicate information to families. You must opt in to receive text communications! Text "Y" or "yes" to 67587 to begin receiving text messages from our school and Kyrene School District.

## Meet the Teacher Parking

Families are welcome to park in the lower parking lot or the upper parking lot, as well as the upper field. Community volunteers have generously agreed to assist with parking on the field. To access the fields please enter the upper parking lot, enter the open fire gate by the tennis courts/bike rack and follow the fire lane towards the basketball fields. We ask for everyone's patience as numerous families are arriving simultaneously. We kindly ask that families do not park directly on Desert Foothills Parkway or in the neighborhoods adjacent to Altadeña. Carpooling would greatly assist in reducing traffic.

### **Athletics/Clubs**

Information regarding Athletics will be shared during Meet the Teacher. If you have any questions about Altadeña Athletics please visit the Kyrene Athletics Homepage or contact Anne Saccoman in Student Services in the Altadeña front office at 480-541-6004.

There will be opportunities throughout the year for students to get involved in clubs. Students can find information by way of our daily announcements and their advisory teachers. Parents can find information in the weekly Panther Newsletter which is emailed on Fridays and linked on our school webpage.

### **Supply Lists**

Supply lists will be distributed during Meet the Teacher Night. These specifically requested supplies are not required on the first day of school and if families need help acquiring any of the suggested items please contact the front office. Additional supplies may be requested throughout the school year and specifically for some of our elective classes. Thank you for helping to prepare your child for school. Always welcome are donations of boxes of facial tissue and printer/copier paper.

### **PBIS Donations**

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports is a school-wide process for creating positive and safe environments that are predictable, encouraging, and effective for achieving academic success and reaching social goals. Here at Altadeña Middle School, we focus our efforts on helping all children exceed their potential by teaching to and supporting the whole child.

Our students are simply terrific, and the majority of students follow our school expectations, and we want to recognize these positive behaviors. PBIS acknowledges their efforts daily as they demonstrate their best. Through instruction, comprehension and regular practice, all teachers, staff members, and students use and follow a consistent set of behavior expectations and routines across all school settings. All students are directly and explicitly taught school expectations throughout the school year to continually ensure understanding. At times, students make choices that are not positive. When this happens, we view it as an opportunity for re-teaching.

We have adopted a unified set of procedures expected in all common areas. You will see expectations posted throughout the school. Students are recognized daily for practicing:

Leadership  
Excellence  
Accountability  
Determination

We are asking for donations to help stock our PBIS store. Items such as small gift cards (\$5 & \$10), earbuds, bags of chips, individually packaged snacks, and cans of sparkling water would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be dropped off in the front office during Meet the Teacher, or at any time during the school year. We greatly appreciate your support!

## Transportation

Families can access information regarding Bus Routes and Bus Safety by visiting the Kyrene webpage and looking under the Parent Tab or by selecting the following [link](#). Due to district safety guidelines, student drop off, pick up, and bus locations have been updated and are reflected in the map below:

### **Altadena Parking Map**



This parking map has been discussed with District Transportation and for **SAFETY PURPOSES**, please follow all directions.

The upper parking lot is for buses **ONLY**. Once school starts, band and orchestra will provide parking passes for those students with large instruments.

The lower parking lot is for parent drop/pick-up. It is important to keep the flow of traffic going. When possible, please pull up as far as you can go. Parking will only be allowed to visitors coming to the office. Students **WILL NOT** be allowed to enter the parking lot to go to a parked car unless escorted by an adult.

Parking in Cerrito's parking lot is **DISCOURAGED**. There is not adult supervision there.

## Online Payment Portal

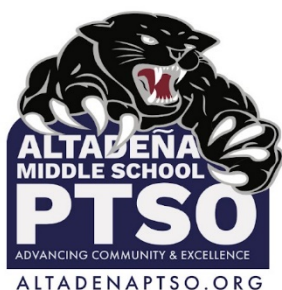
Kyrene School District has a convenient new payment portal for parents to pay for everything from athletics to field trips. The InTouch Payment Portal will provide parents with digital receipts for all transactions. You can even use it to make this year's tax credit donation to the school of your choice. Register once and use the portal all year.

## Food Services

Comprehensive information regarding school breakfast and lunch can be found on the Kyrene School District website [here](#).

Meal payments can be made on the InTouch Payment Portal this year. Parents can view meal balances or pay by check/cash at schools. Free & Reduced lunch applications are available at school sites.





## AltadeñaPTSO.org

- **Stay Informed**
- **Volunteer**
- **Donate**
- **Buy Spirit Wear**



### PTSO

Hello Altadeña Families,

Whether you are a returning family, Welcome Back, or a new family, Welcome!

We are a diverse group made up of parents/caregivers/guardians/teachers who are all dedicated to the successful education of our children. The PTSO works hard to help promote an excellent education experience for the students. For the 2023/2024 school year, the theme is "LEVEL UP!" challenging students to strive for the next level.

Our group meets monthly to discuss events, plan fundraisers to enhance all programs, and share ideas. Throughout the year at our evening General Meetings, we will have a Stay Informed Presentation. We are happy to announce that the "Watch D.O.G.S" (Dads Of Great Students) program will be kicking off during the 1st semester. Our fundraiser kicks off on August 8th. We have partnered with Step It Up to assist us in fundraising this year.

Our event calendar, a blend of new and old activities can be found on the PTSO calendar link located on our PTSO Altadeña webpage [www.altadenaptso.org](http://www.altadenaptso.org)

Please take a minute to fill out our Parent Interest Form. Every positive imprint we make on our children can go a long way. You can participate as much or as little as your schedule allows, with your help we can make the 2023-24 school year great!

We are fortunate to have varying years of experience within our group and have had the opportunity to meet many wonderful family members and staff through our involvement. We look forward to getting to know you, reach out anytime to our email [president@altadenaptso.org](mailto:president@altadenaptso.org)

Sincerely,

Co-Presidents

Carrie Dabau & Madlyn Hulver

Meet Our Board:

Co-Presidents - Madlyn Hulver & Carrie Dabau  
Vice President - Open  
Secretary - Andrea Donoso  
Treasurer - Crystal Hostetler  
Communications - Erica Garvey  
Hospitality Coordinator - Heather Sapp  
Volunteer Coordinator - Veronica Hinojosa  
Family Dinner Night Coordinator - Stephanie Nuttall  
Spirit Wear Coordinators - Heather Bingham & Katy Zobel  
Committee Chairs:  
8th Grade Promotion Dance - Open  
Bingo Night - Open  
Corporate Sponsorship - Nicole Koester  
Dodgeball for Dollars - Carrie Dabau  
Fundraising - Carrie and Madlyn  
Gift of Time - Nicole Koester  
Nights of the Panther - Open  
Staff Appreciation Week - Open  
Watch Dogs - Open

## Altadeña Points of Pride

A+ School of Excellence  
Lead School - Leader in Me  
No Place For Hate School

*Member, National Association of Student Councils*  
*Member, National Junior Honor Society*

## Contact Us

**Kyrene Altadeña**  
14620 S Desert Foothills Parkway  
Phoenix, AZ 85048

**Phone:** 480-541-6000  
**Fax:** 480-541-6010  
**Attendance:** 480-541-6001

**Office Hours:** Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 7:30 – 4:00 pm  
Wed: 7:30am-2:00pm

**School Hours:** Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 8:20am-3:05pm  
Wed: 8:20-1:05pm