



July 28, 2023

Message from the Principal

Happy Friday!

The first full week of school was chock full of “firsts.” First Fire Drill, first week of our new and improved parent drop-off/pick-up and bus designated areas, and the first testing of the year-NWEA Beginning of Year tests. Students also participated in grade-level chats to receive information to start their school year off on the right track.

Days continue to be hot, with temperatures being in the extreme caution range, but it’s a good thing learning is cool. Efforts have been made to limit the amount of time students are outside and we encourage them to keep hydrating throughout the school day.

Please scroll down for important updates and action items.
Have a wonderful weekend,

Juliet Riffenburg
Principal



PARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORMS

We need your help! Every school year we have important KSD forms that are required to be reviewed and acknowledged at the beginning of the school year. If you have not

already done so, please go to [ParentVUE](#) to review and acknowledge all beginning of the year forms (Family Handbook Acknowledgement, Technology Agreement, etc.) as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please call our office at 480-541-6000. We are here to help.



Bus Information:

Due to the high student count for the Gold and Pink bus we will be adding a permanent **PM route** to help relieve some of the crowding on the bus.

The new route will be the PURPLE Bus and will drop off the following stops:

3:01 pm	STOP	E DESERT WILLOW DR @ S 25TH PL
3:05 pm	STOP	E DRY CREEK RD @ S 34TH ST
3:07 pm	STOP	S MTN PKWY @ E DESERT TRUMPET RD
3:09 pm	STOP	E MOUNTAIN SKY AVE @ S 38TH ST
3:12 pm	STOP	3236 E CHANDLER BLVD-MTN CANYON CONDOS
3:25 pm	END	LOMAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

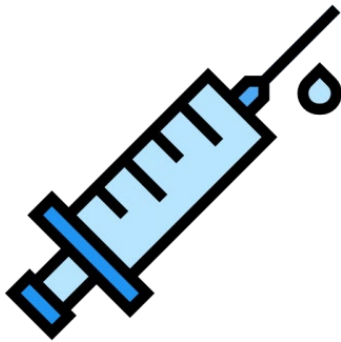
The Transportation Department will continue to monitor the bus counts every day for the next few weeks and make adjustments where necessary. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

The new route will start on Monday July 31, 2023





The Altadeña Health Office does NOT stock ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) Benadryl, Hydrocortisone cream or ointment, antibiotic ointment, or cough drops. Over the Counter and Prescription Medications must be brought into the school health office by an adult and the proper paperwork must be filled out. Students are NOT allowed to carry medication on their person at any time, this includes any prescriptions and over the counter meds like Tylenol, Ibuprofen, or cough drops. Prescription medication must be in its original container with a current prescription label. All over-the-counter medications (including cough drops) must be in their original factory sealed container with all warnings and directions intact. If you have any questions, please call the health office at 480-541-6020. Student Daily/Rescue Medications: If your student requires daily medication during school hours the prescription label must include the time to be given. School health care plans for allergy/asthma/seizure rescue medications can be obtained by contacting Sue Mullarkey, Altadeña Health Assistant, at 480-541-6020 or smullarkey@kyrene.org.



IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

All enrolled 6th and newly enrolled 7th & 8th grade students are required to provide a record of their 11-year-old immunizations for Tdap and Meningococcal vaccines to the Aprende Middle School Health Office. Please check ParentVUE to confirm your student's health records are up to date. Updated immunization records may be emailed to smullarkey@kyrene.org or faxed to (480) 541-6010. The Maricopa County health department provides free vaccinations to all children 18 years old and under. They can be reached at (602) 506-6767 <https://www.maricopa.gov/1809/Locations> If you have any questions regarding this requirement, please contact your family physician or Sue Mullarkey at smullarkey@kyrene.org



Fall Sports is Starting

Cross Country starts Monday, 7/31 at 6:30 a.m.

Girls Volleyball tryouts start Monday, 7/31 at 3:30pm in the Gym.



Staff Spotlight - Jim Schieffer, Resource Teacher

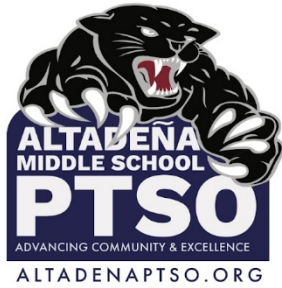
I grew up in a little town called Hartington, Nebraska. We are still working on our first traffic light. It was a great place to grow up where people work hard and value their family and friendships. I have lived in Arizona for 31 years. When I am not teaching, I enjoy hiking, camping, reading, photography, playing guitar, and tending my grill.

I received my B.S.S.W. (Social Work) from the University of Nebraska - Omaha in 1992 and my graduate degrees in 2006 (MA. Ed.) and 2011 (MS. Psy.). Through my 20's and early 30's, I worked mostly in sales and management for various companies. This was very helpful in my teaching career because I was able to experience different styles of leadership. I learned that the heart of leadership is about serving others.

I became interested in teaching children with special needs while volunteering for Valley Big Brothers Big Sisters. I mentored a boy with autism from age 8 to 14. He was an inspiration and taught me that laughter is an integral part of living and learning.

This is my 17th year teaching students in the Kyrene School District. I was at Kyrene Middle School for 10 years, and this is my 7th year at Altadena. I love teaching because we are able help shape a young person's journey to success. For students in my classroom, that journey is often all three years of middle school. This gives our teaching team a tremendous opportunity to see amazing academic and personal growth. I also cherish the relationships that I have built over the years with my colleagues at Altadena and countless people within the Kyrene community.

This year, I look forward to working together with my Altadena teaching team to help develop and inspire our fantastic Panther students. My hope is that on the last day of school in May, as our students are laughing and ecstatically signing year books, all of us are all able to take a moment to realize that Altadena really is a pretty wonderful place.



AltadeñaPTSO.org

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



Upcoming Events for July & August

August 7 - 18th	Step It Up Fundraiser - Special Prize for donating \$200.00 the first 40 8th Grade Parents will receive 2 VIP seats to the Grade Promotion. Students will have a Level Up - kickoff on August 7th to get the students excited to participate. Golden Ticket and Information will be sent home on August 7th.
August 10th	Family Dinner Night at MOD Pizza
August 15th	Hospitality Teachers Luncheon - Be on the lookout for the Sign Up
Genius next week!	
August 23	Family Dinner Night at Bahama Bucks

No cost ways to support Altadeña Middle School

Fry's Food Stores is committed to giving back to their communities. It's Free to Enroll and provides a portion back to Altadeña every time you shop!
www.frysfood.com/i/community/community-rewards

Enrolling is easy. Click the link above.
Search and select Kyrene Altadeña Middle School PTSO (School Code: F1855) as your chosen non-profit.

Follow the PTSO on social media!

Stay informed with the latest happenings at Altadeña by following us on Facebook and Instagram.

<https://www.facebook.com/altadenaPTSO>

<https://www.instagram.com/altadenaptso>

Want to Volunteer: Fill out the volunteer form on our website
www.altadenaptso.org/volunteer



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