



February 02, 2021

February's Message from Ms. Branch

And just like that, January has passed. During this pandemic, I feel like time moves both slowly and quickly. My heart yearns for the day we see things return to some sense of normalcy, especially in regards to school. I know that you all share these same sentiments. Stress and fatigue continue to set in for many. We see the presence of both among some of our students. Our staff is working hard to provide engaging online learning and yet some of our students are not “showing up” or are simply struggling. While we understand how difficult distance learning can be for many, we encourage you to talk with your children about the importance of persevering and being present during this difficult time. Please urge them to keep their cameras on and to participate in their learning. We recognize that distance learning is not easy for parents/guardians as well. Our staff is here to support both our children and our families. Communication with your child’s classroom teacher is even more crucial during this time of distance learning. Knowing that communication is critical, I implore all of our families to participate in our upcoming parent/teacher conferences. In the near future, your child’s teacher will be sending out details about how to reserve a conference spot. Both teachers and parents have a shared goal of helping children thrive, and parents play a critical role in meeting that goal. We not only welcome but encourage your involvement. Your input is valued and needed. Thank you for partnering with us for your child’s success.

During these short yet long days, may we focus on the positive. Just as stars shine the brightest in the darkness, it is our positive energy that will shine the most through adversity. May we all keep shining so that we can be a light for those around us!

Warmly,

Ms. Branch

Upcoming Events

FEB 3: 100th Day of School

FEB 4: Preschool and Kindergarten Virtual Showcase Night 5:30PM

FEB 12: Early Release 12:30 PM

FEB 15: President's Day - No School

FEB 24,25,26: Parent Teacher Conferences - Early Release at 12:30 PM

FEB 24: Restaurant Night at Chipotle

February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Virtual Jump Rope for Heart	2 Food Drive This Week!	3 100th Day of School!	4 Preschool/ Kindergarten Virtual Showcase Event 5:30PM	5 Football Jersey/T-shirt Day 	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 EARLY RELEASE 12:30	13
14	15 President's Day NO SCHOOL	16	17	18	19 Twin Day 	20
21	22	23	24 Parent/ Teacher Conf. EARLY RELEASE 12:30 Restaurant Night Chipotle 4-8 PM	25 Parent/ Teacher Conf. EARLY RELEASE 12:30	26 Parent/ Teacher Conf. EARLY RELEASE 12:30	27
28	1	2	3	4	5 EARLY RELEASE 12:30	6



President's Day
No School
Monday, February 15th
Enjoy the long weekend!

Mirada Leadership Academy Virtual Showcase Event

If you have an incoming preschooler or kindergartner, or know of someone who does, please check out our first ever Virtual Showcase. This event will begin at 5:30PM on Thursday, February 4th. A ZOOM link will be posted prior to the event. Administration, along with members of our preschool and kindergarten teams, will be sharing important information about our leadership program and the preschool and kindergarten programs. Please mark your calendars for this special event. We would greatly appreciate it if you can help get the word out to those in the community who currently do not have children attending Mirada.

SAVE THE DATE:
Mirada Leadership Academy
Virtual Showcase Event
February 4th at 5:30PM

The
LeaderinMe
great happens here

Upcoming Early Release Days

2021 Early Release Dates

Students Release at 12:30PM
Mirada Office Closes at 1:20PM

Jan. 15 (Fri) Jan. 29 (Fri)	Feb. 12 (Fri) Feb. 24, 25, 26 (Wed-Fri)	Mar. 5 (Fri) Mar. 26 (Fri)
Apr. 1 (Thur) Apr. 16 (Fri) Apr. 30 (Fri)	May 14 (Fri) May 28 (Fri)	Jun. 7 (Mon) Jun. 8 (Tue)

As students continue online learning, Kyrene schools are mindful of the extended screen time for children. District leaders received positive feedback from families about the flexible learning hour days offered prior to winter break.

Kyrene School District will be reintroducing early release dates into the calendar for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. Students are encouraged to use early release dates for independent study, homework catch up, social-emotional activities and self-reflection.

Mirada Leadership Academy will release at 12:30 PM these days. The front office will close at 1:20 PM.

Parent / Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences will take place during the week of February 22-26. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of that week will be early release days in order to allow teachers time to complete conferences. School will release at 12:30 pm on Wednesday the 24th, Thursday the 25th, and Friday the 26th.

How will conferences be conducted?

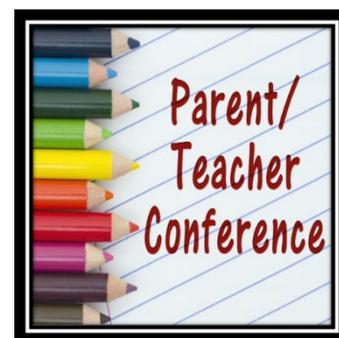
Parents will be offered three options for conferences:

- Conference held by phone
- Conference held via Zoom
- No conference - this option is available for parents who feel that they have had adequate communication regarding their child's academic and behavioral progress

What can you expect from your conference?

- 15 minute phone or Zoom conference in which your child may be asked to participate
- Celebration of success
- Focus on setting academic/behavioral and personal goals

Classroom teachers will be setting up their own individual conferences to be held throughout the week of February 22nd. Please watch for communication from your child's classroom teacher regarding their individual conference times.



Conferences Early Release Days:

Wednesday 2/24
Thursday 2/25
Friday 2/26

School Dismisses
at 12:30 PM

Super Bowl/Non-Perishable Food Drive

Donations accepted Tuesday, February 2 – Friday, February 5

We will have wagons on the sidewalk in front of the Mirada office from 7AM-3:30 PM each day this week. The wagons will be labeled with “Chiefs” and “Bucs.” Please place your items in the wagon of the team that you will be rooting for!

Suggested canned/non-perishable donation items: jelly, canned roast beef, applesauce, rice, pinto beans, tomato sauce, deodorant, toothbrushes, and household products. Items will be donated to the Kyrene Family Resource Center. The Kyrene Family Resource Center strives to support Kyrene students with basic needs to help students achieve their best in school!



VS



Thank you for your support.



Mirada Leadership Academy Enrollment

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year is now open. Kyrene School District will continue to offer online enrollment for new students and any students applying to change schools. Enrollment links are available for the 2021-2022 school year on the KSD homepage [Enroll Here](#)

Open Enrollment: Students new or transferring who live outside of Mirada’s boundaries must fill out an application via the online registration portal. Open Enrollment must be approved before registration is considered final.

Current Students: Continuing Mirada students, will NOT need to re-register. Students in grades K-4 will be registered at Mirada Leadership Academy. All Mirada 5th graders will automatically be registered at Pueblo Middle School. If your 5th grader will not be attending Pueblo for the 2021-2022 school year, please notify our office staff at 480-541-4200 or via email at mirfrontoffice@kyrene.org.

For current Mirada Leadership Academy families with new students entering school, online registration is available through your existing ParentVUE account.

Please **ACT NOW!** ParentVUE Updates

Please help us! We still have over 350 families that have not updated their Emergency Contact information. That is over half of our student body.

Please take the time to complete this request. Per state requirements, it is imperative that we keep accurate and updated contact information.

You can access your information and set up an account in ParentVUE [HERE](#). Note, an activation code is necessary for first time users. Please call the school office at 480-541-4200 and we can assist you.

Tax Credit Donations ~ It's a Win, Win!

Your tax credit donation helps provide for some of the following at Mirada Leadership Academy: Leader in Me Program, guest speakers, student Leadership Day, MML Awards and field trips.

These programs develop well-rounded students, who in turn, build strong communities. Arizona statute allows individuals/couples to donate \$200/\$400 for a dollar-to-dollar tax credit.

The deadline for tax credit donations is April 15 of the following year. You can donate online through our [Payment Portal](#) or fill out the [Tax Credit Contribution Form](#) and send it directly to Mirada Leadership Academy.

Thank you for your continued support!

SCHOOL SPIRIT TASTES GREAT



PTO Restaurant Fundraiser at Chipotle

Wednesday, February 24th from 4-8PM

Chipotle Mexican Grill

890 N. 54th St in Chandler

Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support Mirada Leadership Academy. Show this flyer on your phone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 33% of the proceeds will be donated to Mirada Leadership Academy.

NEW! ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP

Use code **RPVF6QK** before checkout in "promo" field. Orders placed on [Chipotle Online](#) or through the Chipotle app for pickup using this unique code will be counted towards the fundraiser.

All online orders must be placed for pickup at the same time/location of the fundraiser. Delivery cannot be counted at this time. Gift card purchases during fundraisers do not count towards total donated sales, but purchases made with an existing gift card will count. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

Counselor's CORNER



WITH MS. CHAVEZ

Welcome back to Counselor's Corner! February's Tip: Maintaining Social Skills

One of the biggest worries that parents and guardians may have during the Coronavirus pandemic is that their child could struggle to continue developing their social skills since their social interactions at school have diminished. While a child can learn social skills in many environments, attending school can especially teach a wide range of social skills. These skills include; learning how to have healthy conversations, learning how to approach peers and build friendships, conflict resolution skills with academic and social problems, reading social cues, listening skills, learning how to be apologetic and empathetic, and more. (A)

The great news is that although your child currently has little practice with these social skills, it is still possible to practice these skills at home! Here are some suggestions:

Practicing social skills safely: If you aren't already doing this, virtual play dates or video calls are a great way to practice both communication and social skills! Also, many extracurricular activities have opened back up with the implementation of the CDC guidelines. This allows your child to continue practicing social skills in an environment outside of school.

Practice through play: Believe it or not, there are many games that require the use of social skills! These games include Apples to Apples, Guess Who, UNO, any game involving teamwork, finish the story games, and even charades.

Books: When reading books with your child, you can ask them questions about the characters' behaviors and how it affected others in the book or you can ask them how they would feel or what they would do in similar situations.

Real life situations: Using actual situations that occur in your home like problem-solving sibling disagreements, meeting a new friend at the park, practicing expected behaviors at a restaurant, enforcing family rules, and modeling empathy to those who have been affected by Coronavirus are all great ways to maintain and practice various social skills.

A: <https://gostrengths.com/social-skills-and-school/>

B: <https://www.smartkidswithld.org/getting-help/making-friends/covid-19-work-on-social-skills/>

Thanks for reading, see you next month!

Ms. Chavez Google Site

To learn more about my role and the support I can provide, please see my google site for more information!

Link: [School Counselor Google Site](#)

Contact Information

Cielo Phone: (480) 541-2424

Mirada Phone: (480) 541-4369

cduran Chavez@kyrene.org

Schedule

Monday & Thursday: Kyrene del Cielo

Tuesday & Friday: Mirada Leadership Academy

*Rotate Wednesdays

#KyreneSafe
#KyreneStrong

From the District Office

Please visit [SafeStrong](#) for up to date information and news from Kyrene School District.

Contact Us

Kyrene de la Mirada
Leadership Academy
5500 W. Galveston Street
Chandler, AZ 85226

School Hours: 7:30 am - 1:45 pm
Office Hours: 7:10 am - 3:10 pm

Front Office: 480-541-4200
Fax Number: 480-541-4210
Attendance: 480-541-4201
Health Office: 480-541-4220
Cafeteria: 480-541-4226
Kids Club: 480-541-4230

Quick Links

[Food Services and Menu](#)

[ParentVUE](#)

[StudentVUE](#)

[Technology Assistance](#)

[Family Handbook](#)

A+ School of Excellence™

The
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