



September 2, 2020

September's Message from Ms. Branch

Twenty-twenty is a storm around us and it certainly has not left education untouched. Our students, families, and staff have all been asked to take on responsibilities and make decisions that were never even imagined. My heart goes out to everyone during this difficult time as I know it is not easy. However, my heart is also very proud of our students, staff, and families as everyone has done an excellent job navigating so many unexpected changes. Our students are staying more engaged than we possibly could have anticipated. Our teachers are incredible as they work their magic to keep students engaged in their learning from afar. Our families have made many personal sacrifices in order to ensure children are successful with distance learning. The grace and grateful hearts of our Mirada Leadership Academy community are very much appreciated.

As we move forward, with new information regarding the return to In-Person learning, I know our families are experiencing different emotions. Some families are excited for the return. Some are not ready. Some are unsure. Some are confused with decisions that need to be made. Some need more details. Whatever you may be feeling or whatever you may need, please know that we understand and want to validate your feelings and support your needs. We are here to serve you and are only an email or phone call away. Please let us know how we can serve you during this time.

Here is brief list of the most pertinent information that families need to be aware of at this time:

- Grade Level Curriculum Presentations - This year, curriculum presentations are being recorded for families to view at their convenience. It is our hope that this format will allow us to provide the information to more families. Classroom teachers have been asked to share their presentations by this Thursday. If you have questions about your child's grade level curriculum and standards to be taught, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher.
- Dates for the opportunity to return In-Person have been set.
 - Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd Grades: In-Person students return Thursday, September 17
 - 3rd, 4th, 5th Grades: In-Person students return Thursday, September 24

- If you want or need to make a change to your child’s learning environment, we request that you make this change by Monday, September 7 by logging into [ParentVUE](#). Once in ParentVUE, select “Online Registration” then “Learning Environment.”
- Students remaining in Flex or changing an In-Person decision to Flex will remain in the Flex model until the end of the second quarter. At that time, parents/guardians may make changes.
- The original schedule was to ask families to confirm their choice for Quarter 2 in mid-September. Families have been asked to make this choice slightly sooner than originally anticipated, to help support a single, organized transition of students.
- The next County release of weekly public health benchmarks is Thursday, September 3. We hope this will help support your family in your decision making.

For families choosing to return In-Person, an additional Mirada communication will be provided during the week of September 14th and will include very specific details about returning In-Person including drop-off and pick-up information. In order to successfully implement our mitigation strategies, changes need to be made to a number of our procedures. Your understanding, flexibility, and patience are appreciated as we roll out new procedures.

I shared the following quote with my staff today and I think it is fitting for us all. As we maneuver through a pandemic, we need all the “warm glows” that we can get. Remembering our why or our purpose can certainly help us find those.

“You know how every once in a while you do something and the little voice inside says, ‘There. That’s it. That’s why you’re here.’ ...and you get a warm glow in your heart because you know it’s true?

Do more of that.

~Jacob Nordby

May your heart be filled with many warm glows today and every day!

Warmly,

Ms. Branch



Upcoming Events

SEPT 7: Labor Day - No School
SEPT 7-18: Read-A-Thon
OCT 2: Teacher Day - No School
OCT 5-9: Fall Break
OCT 12: Staff Development Day - No School



Labor Day - No School
Monday, September 7th
No school and the office will be closed!

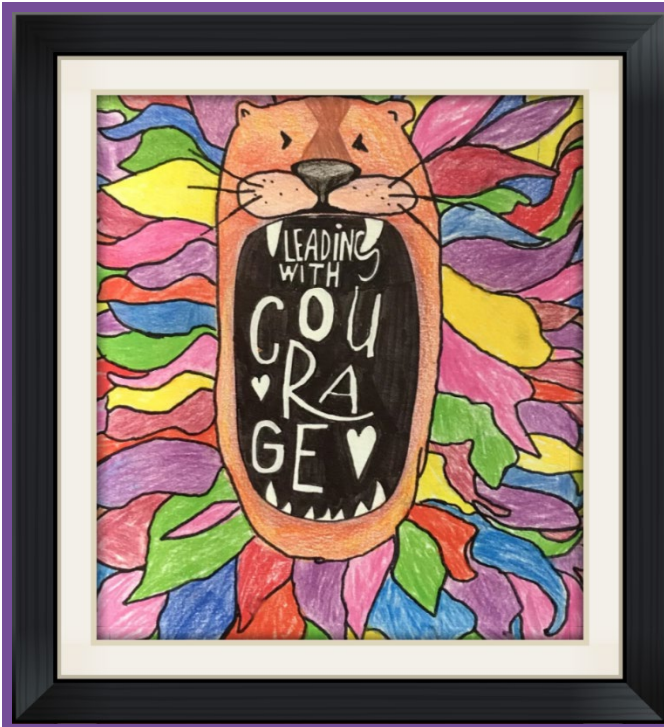
ORDER YOUR SPIRIT WEAR TODAY - MIRADA T-SHIRTS ARE HERE!
All Orders are due by September 18th



Mirada Leadership Academy
20/21 "The Wildest Ride"
T-Shirt Orders
Show your school spirit!

This year we are offering several styles and colors.
To place your online order and to see all
purchasing options, click on the link below.

We are so excited that we have a brand new online ordering system for your school Spirit Wear! Mirada Leadership Academy has several colors and styles available for your "Wildest Ride" t-shirts. View all size, color and style options [HERE](#). Once you've decided on your t-shirts, place your order [HERE!](#) Note, if you have not set up an account, you will need to go through the first time user steps to create an account linked through ParentVUE. DEADLINE: You MUST place your online order BEFORE Sept. 18th. We are only having these printed as a one time order.



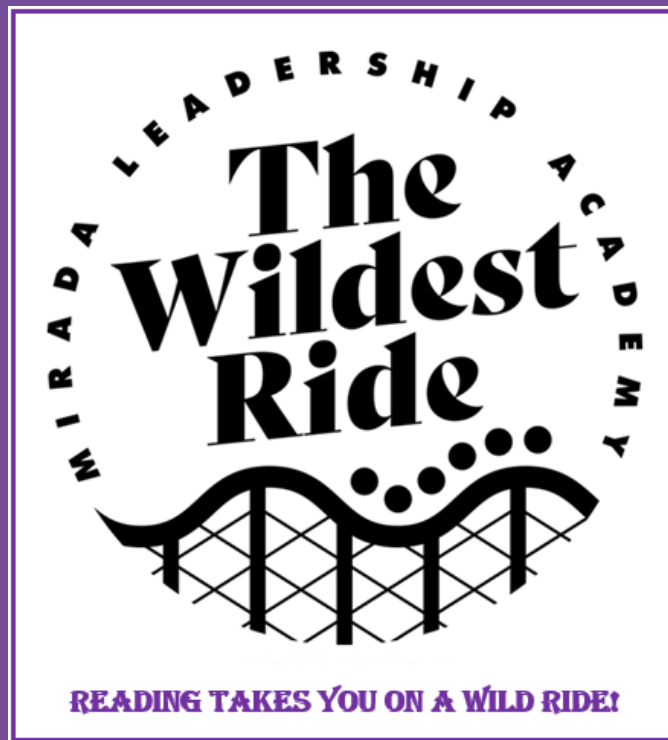
2019 / 2020 Yearbooks

If you missed out on purchasing a yearbook last school year, you are in luck!

We have 19/20 yearbooks available in the front office. They are \$10.00 each. Cash only (we do not have change available).

Congratulations to the two Mirada students who created the front & back cover artwork!

- * Logan Bosscher
- * Claire Clark



The Annual Mirada Read-A-Thon is Back!
Dates: 9/7 - 9/18

Our 2020/2021 Read-a-Thon theme is “reading takes you on a wild ride!” This year we will be launching an all new online format. You will sign up, get your pledges, and track your reading progress on our website [Mirada PTO](#). The Read-a-Thon will be held from September 7 - 18.

We will have lots of great prizes, including a grand prize family pack of Disney park hopper tickets, please have your student join us for this wonderful fundraising event that supports literacy and school engagement! Click on the links below for all of the information that you will need to get started.

[Read-A-Thon Details](#)

[Pledge/Sponsor Sheet](#)



Parent Notifications

2020 - 2021 Gifted Testing

Gifted Child Find Notice. All public school districts have an ongoing “Child Find” obligation. This means that the Kyrene School District will identify, locate and evaluate all children within their geographic boundaries who are in need of special education and related services. Kyrene makes gifted testing available for students at school sites three times per year by application. Applications are due for the next round of testing for 2020-21 on October 26, 2020. If you think your child may be gifted, visit the website at [Gifted Testing](#) for information about gifted education, services, and testing in Kyrene. More information about the child find process can be found at kyrene.org

Photos and Videos

Families, when your child enters a virtual classroom, they are, in effect, entering our school and agreeing to abide by all school rules as set forth in the Kyrene Family Handbook and any handbook addendums. As a reminder, students and parents/guardians are not allowed to take any photos or videos of virtual learning. This includes not allowing other individuals (such as media) to take photos or record videos either. Kyrene School District has policies and practices in place for allowing media inside our schools, and all media requests must go through the District Office. Thank you for helping us to safeguard the security of our online learning spaces.

Mirada Leadership Academy

VISION AND MISSION

Inspiring Academic Excellence while
Celebrating Strengths, Developing
Leaders, and Honoring Diversity

UPCOMING: Mark your Calendars!
September 23rd
PTO Sponsored - Baja Fresh Restaurant Night
Phone Orders: 480.705.0192
Online Orders: [Order Baja Fresh Now](#)
4979 W Ray Road in Chandler



In order to support CDC guidelines, we encourage our families to order online or via phone for takeout orders. Please “join” us in support of our Mirada PTO!

From the District Office

#KyreneSafe
#KyreneStrong

#WeAreKyrene:

Kyrene published a video series documenting our transition to online operations. Check out the [videos](#).

School Closure Information:

Please visit the [911 page](#) for answers to frequently asked questions, instructional resources, times and locations for meal services, and a message from the Superintendent. Families can also find all previous Kyrene communications on this page.

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

A+ School of Excellence™

