

# The Kyrene Parent Network Newsletter

October 22, 2006 Issue 2



Dear KPN members,

As the saying goes, "There's never a dull moment!" and that certainly seems to fit the educational arena today. With general concerns throughout the country with "No Child Left Behind", and within Arizona, AIMS testing, adequate funding, and discussions of unification, it's never been a more important time to stay in the loop of information. There are many sources for this type of information; however it really depends on the amount of time a person has to locate it and then read and take it all on. Here are some websites which provide information regarding some issues affecting the Kyrene and Tempe Union communities. KPN provides some information on these at our meetings, on our website and within this newsletter; however, it may be that someone would like additional facts.

If you ever have questions, or would like to have a discussion on something you have heard or read, I hope you will contact me or any of our board members. We love to discuss current events and by doing so, it helps to clarify thoughts. We are always up to meeting for a cup of coffee to talk and would love to hear suggestions for topics for our meetings. We want to hear what interests our members! We hope this information helps those seeking answers!

The following are timely issues and some places where information may be found:

Unification:

<http://www.ade.az.gov/sdrc> AZ Depart. of Education website on Redistricting Committee

<http://www.kyrene.org/gb/mintues-agendas/minutes/2006/12sep06.pdf> Minutes from Kyrene Governing Board Meeting, 9/12, Page 12... Discussion by Dr. Schauer and Board

Kyrene Health Committee & Work on Sex/HIV/AIDS education:

<http://www.kyrene.org/curriculum/health/index.htm> For meeting minutes, click on Health Committee.

Middle School Model:

<http://www.kyrene.org/k8psc/Middle%20School%20Evaluation.htm> Link to consultant from ASU, Dr. Garcia's Presentation regarding 1st year evaluation of Model

Demographic and Enrollment Projections For Kyrene: Report from consultants, Applied Economics 8/06

[http://www.kyrene.org/ksdnews/images/Demographic\\_Study.pdf](http://www.kyrene.org/ksdnews/images/Demographic_Study.pdf)

Kyrene Governing Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes:

<http://www.kyrene.org/gb/mintues-agendas/2006.htm>

Tempe Union High School Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes:

[http://www.tuhd.k12.us/school\\_board/agendas.htm](http://www.tuhd.k12.us/school_board/agendas.htm)



## 2006-2007 KPN Officers & Contact Information

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## Kyrene Parent Network Meetings

Tuesday, November 21	7-8:30pm	Ironwood Library
December	– No meeting	
Thursday, January 18	10-11:30 am	
Tuesday, February 20	7-8:30 pm	
Thursday, March 22	10-11:30 am	
Tuesday, April 17	7-8:30 pm	
Thursday, May17	10-11:30 am	

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## Kyrene Parent Network October 17 Meeting Highlights

It was an honor for KPN to have Dr. Shirley Miles, Superintendent of Tempe Union High School District as our October guest! Dr. Miles entertained the audience with her stories of travel, her visions for Tempe high schools and her beliefs about education today. Her love of travel has brought her to many interesting places throughout the world including Tibet, where she traveled alone for 30 days! She commented that the one thing she has learned from all of her adventures is that the common thread regarding education is that parents everywhere care deeply about their children's learning. Dr. Miles' advocacy for the Arts certainly came through as she talked about her personal love for dance. Another interesting fact about Dr. Miles is besides having her PhD in Education, she also has some business background, with an MBA.

Dr. Miles, along with Greg Patten (KPN Vice Pres.) gave updates on the work of the state commissioned committee studying unification and answered some general questions regarding it. Everyone agreed it is very important for the community to learn all the facts and to provide their input to this process. In the end, voters will determine if any type of unification takes place. Dr. Miles extended her thanks for KPN inviting her and said she would be happy to come back!

**Please see separate section for Meetings regarding the Redistricting Initiative.**

## KPN Membership Information

We are currently trying to complete our renewals for existing members. If you have not already renewed your membership for the 2006-2007 school year, we would appreciate hearing from you.

To become a member, either complete the Membership form found in this newsletter and mail it in or bring it to our next meeting: **November 21st 7:00pm** at Ironwood Library.

For renewals or new membership, you may also contact Brian at [membership@kyrene.org](mailto:membership@kyrene.org)

Your support of KPN is a significant step towards understanding and working with our Kyrene area school districts towards a goal of improving all aspects of our children's education.

## KPN Website:

[www.kyreneparent.org](http://www.kyreneparent.org)

## Kyrene Parent Network

### New Membership

For school year 2006-2007

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (include city/zip): \_\_\_\_\_

Schools children attend: \_\_\_\_\_ N/A: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Work in:  Tempe Union H.S. District  Kyrene School District

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ \$5 annual OR \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Lifetime (Fees help cover printing, renting of Facilities, etc)

Cash  or Check  If check, #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make **checks payable to Kyrene Parent Network**. Forms along with payment can either be brought to the next meeting or mailed to: KPN, 3614 E. Brookwood Court, Phx. AZ 85048

For Information: Website: [www.KyreneParent.org](http://www.KyreneParent.org) Contact: [brian@kyreneparent.org](mailto:brian@kyreneparent.org)

Bylaws, Section 4.1 Membership. Membership in the Corporation shall consist of any adult 18 years of age or older who resides or works or has students enrolled in the Kyrene School District and/or Tempe Union High School District.

**All information will be confidential. Thank you!**

**Revised 10/17/06**

# The Kyrene Parent Network Newsletter

## Around our Districts

### Parent Superintendent Re-cap For October 17 (at Sierra)

Dr. Schauer announced the Gifted Advisory Team would like to have a rep from PSC. If interested, contact Linda Mosteller at [lmoste@kyrene.org](mailto:lmoste@kyrene.org).

Carolyn Cole, asst. principal from Manitas gave an **update on the Kyrene calendar committee**. Final options will be posted on the Kyrene website by the end of October, for the community to provide feedback, prior to being shared at the Governing Board Meeting in late Nov. or Dec.

#### 3 Possible Options For 2-year School Calendar

	Starting	Fall Break	Winter Break	Spring Break	Ending
Option 1 (current)	Early Aug.	1 week Oct.	2 weeks Dec./Jan.	1 week Mar.	1 week before Memorial Day
Option 2	1 week later in Aug.	1 week Thanksgiving week	2 weeks Dec./Jan.	1 week Mar.	the week after Memorial Day
Option 3	2 weeks later in Aug.	2 days adjacent to a weekend	2 weeks Dec./Jan.	1 week Mar.	the week after Memorial Day

Theresa Sweeney gave an update of the **Health Curriculum Committee**. Please see information in its own area.

The labels used for Adequately Yearly Progress (AYP) were discussed. AYP requires that 95% of all students in each category have to test or the school will be labeled failing. That is the reason several Kyrene schools received this label. The subgroups are all students, Hispanic, African American, Indian, Asian, Caucasian, Special Ed, English Lang. Learners, and Low Socioeconomic Status. A school can be labeled Excelling, but fail to make AYP. For 2005, Kyrene has 19 excelling schools and 6 highly performing schools.

### Kyrene Music and Fine Arts Association (KMFA)

KMFA is a non-profit organization made up of parents, community members and fine arts educators in support of a complete music and fine arts education program for all schools in the Kyrene School District.

#### **Recap of October 19 meeting:**

Discussion of high school articulation was tabled, due to Dr. Cecilia Johnson not being able to attend. Other than business items, the main topic was brainstorming the issue of how to tackle the grant issue

Meetings are open to our community and this is an opportunity to provide input into the music and fine arts programs in the Kyrene Schools.

**For more information, please see  
KMFA's website:  
<http://www.kyrenefinearts.org>**

#### KPN Thank You's

We would like to thank:

**Dr. David Schauer**  
Superintendent of Kyrene School District

**Rich Zawtocky**  
President, Kyrene Governing Board

*and*

**Dr. Shirley Miles**  
Superintendent of Tempe High School District

For being our guests at KPN's September and October meetings. Their visions and ideas provided meaningful thoughts to all who attended!

**"I suppose leadership at one time meant muscles; but today it means getting along with people."**

Author: [Mahatma Gandhi](#) 1869-1948  
Indian Political, Spiritual Leader

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## Kyrene Health Committee Update

**Summary of October 16 meeting:** To meet timelines, the committee is breaking into smaller work groups during regularly scheduled meetings. Workgroups will then report to and make recommendations to the entire committee for a final vote. Current tasks are: 3rd grade HIV/AIDS Lesson, 4th/5th/6th grade Puberty Lessons, and 4th/5th grade HIV/AIDS.

Following a 60-day public review, the lessons and resources will go to the Governing Board to consider for approval. The Arizona Administrative Code can be found at the Secretary of State’s website: [azsos.org](http://azsos.org) (R7-2-303 is the section about this topic) and Arizona Revised Statutes related to this are on the state legislature website: [azleg.gov](http://azleg.gov) (ARS 15-716 Instruction on AIDS, and ARS 15-102 Parental involvement in the school).

Interesting Fact: Arizona state law requires all human growth and development/ HIV / AIDS lessons to be “opt in.” That is, the only way your children will receive these lessons is if you sign the form indicating you want the school to teach them to your child.

**For more information, see: [kyrene.org/curriculum](http://kyrene.org/curriculum)**  
(click Expanded Curriculum Draft).

If you have questions or would like us to bring back your input to these meetings, just let us know!  
Mckell: [organization@kyreneparent.org](mailto:organization@kyreneparent.org) or Sandy: [president@kyreneparent.org](mailto:president@kyreneparent.org)

### Upcoming Meetings for Kyrene and Tempe High School Districts

**Kyrene School District Governing Board Regular Meetings**  
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month, 7:00 pm, District Office

November 14      November 28

**Kyrene Parent Superintendent Council (PSC) Meetings**  
3rd Tuesday of the month, 11:30-1:30

NOTE: Reps from each school attend these meeting and then are to report back to the school’s community.

November 21 – Sureno Elementary      December – NO meeting

**Kyrene Health Curriculum Committee Meetings**  
4:30 to 6:30, District Office

October 30    November 6    November 20    December 4    December 18

**Tempe Union High School District Governing Board Meetings**  
Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., Benedict Education Center  
500 W. Guadalupe

November 1    November 15    November 29    December 13

### Don’t Miss This Chance To Speak with Kyrene Governing Board Members along with Administrators about the Redistricting Initiative!

November 6 6:00pm – 8:00pm  
Kyrene Altadena Middle School  
Media Center

November 27 4:00pm – 6:00pm  
Kyrene Akimel Middle School

December 6 10:00am – Noon  
District Office – Ben Furlong Center

and

**The State School District  
Consolidation Commission will be  
holding public hearings on:**

November 15  
House Hearing Room 5  
State Capitol Complex 2:00