

Tartesso Elementary School Truancy Program

Tartesso Elementary School began partnering with the Buckeye Police Department to implement the SRO (School Resource Officer) program in August of 2015. This program has been successful in educating children about safety, establishing police presence on campus, and curtailing the truancy problem.

Collaboration with the Saddle Mountain Unified School District as well as the school's Principal, SRO, Secretary, City Prosecutor and Magistrate Court Judge is crucial to the program's success. Student attendance is crucial and can directly affect academic achievement, especially with a 4 day school week. Please understand that our intent is simply to get children to school, NOT to cite students and/or parents.

Plan of action as follows:

1. The School Secretary will send out a 5 and 10 day "Attendance Letter" to the student's parents.
2. Once 10 days of absences are reached the student at this level will be forwarded to the Principal or designated staff member who will speak with each child individually to determine if there are any other factors causing absences. A call will also be made to parents at this time.
3. Once the student (s) has been absent 15 days the list will be forwarded to the Principal who will follow up with another parent phone call to see if there is a medical issue. If none exists the parent is advised once 18 days of absences are reached a citation may be issued by the SRO from the Buckeye Police Department. The student is also spoken to by the Principal advising him/her of the above mentioned.
4. Once 18 days of absences have been reached, excused OR unexcused, a home visit will be conducted by the Principal and SRO where a citation may be issued. (The Principal has the overall discretion determining if the absences are excusable from a citation-medical or death in the family).
5. Only students in 6th grade and above will be issued a citation. Students in the 5th grade and under will not be cited, only the parents. Parents and/or students who receive a citation may receive punishment, from the courts, ranging from probation to fines.