Parents, Guardians, Students, and Alumni:

Welcome to Tartesso Elementary School, home of the Tigers. This year we will be changing from a K-8 to a K-5 school, due to our rapid growth in the Saddle Mountain Unified School District in Buckeye, Arizona. We will start the school year with approximately 700 students!! We have now have four teachers in each grade level to accommodate the growth.

Our four-day school week is in session Tuesday-Friday from 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and we offer free breakfast in the classroom to all students daily starting at 6:45 a.m. On Early Release days, we will now dismiss at 11:15 a.m. Through our vision statement, “Everyone learns every day,” our teachers and staff will significantly touch the lives of your children. We are a school of strong tradition, values, and excellence. Together with our community members, we will reflect on the past and build our future.

Many exciting things will be continuing this year! ALL K-5 students will be working with chrome books in their classrooms, our 5th grade classes receive weekly coding classes, and all students in grades 3rd-5th will rotate between technology, art, and P.E. weekly. Students are becoming more and more familiar with technology and we are confident that they are acquiring the skills necessary to be prepared and compete in the 21st century. We have a variety of enrichment classes, as well as, after school programs offered at Tartesso again this year. These classes are facilitated by teachers, parents, and community members. All K-2 students will have a rotating special area schedule including art, music, and physical education.

We also plan to offer a variety of after school programs AGAIN this year!! These programs will include Chess & Checkers, Cheer, Kids Connection, Yearbook, Student Council, Art, Crazy Crafting, Intro to Robotics, Advanced Robotics, Creative Kids Club, Volleyball Club, Homework Club, Math Challenge Teams, Board Game Clubs, Edison Robots, Cosmic Kids Yoga, Girl Scouts, Mindfulness, Basketball, College Football, Little Learners Lab, and Drum Circle. Please make sure you attend our Meet the Teacher Night on July 30th from 3-5 p.m. to register for these clubs. They will be on a first come, first serve basis and space will be limited. There are different clubs offered for certain grade levels. Registration forms will be available that evening.

4th-5th grade students also have the ability to apply to be part of the Tartesso News Network. They write news segments and conduct interviews that are videotaped weekly to broadcast to the entire student body every Tuesday.

Big Brothers Big Sisters, KONA ICE, and Cake Pops by Amber have partnered with us by providing fundraising opportunities for our school the last few years. BBBS has a clothing bin in our parking lot in which community members can drop off used items at any time. We receive 10% of the total amount raised. In addition, KONA ICE brings their truck out to Tartesso every Thursday during lunch hours and students are able to buy frozen treats during recess. We receive 20% of the profits. In addition, one of our parents, Mrs. Ricks, sells Cake Pops outside of our school every Wednesday and Tartesso receives profits from those sales, as well. PTO will continue selling snacks after school on Fridays.

Celebrating successes are extremely important at Tartesso. We have an incentive program that allows students to receive Tiger Paws for exemplary behavior and perfect attendance. At the end of each month, two students are selected from each class to participate in a dodgeball tournament with Mrs. Giacovelli, our Principal. Students that make the honor roll and/or have perfect attendance are recognized in their classrooms each quarter by receiving certificates and are also acknowledged on our Facebook Page, “Tartesso Elementary School.” Please check out our page for important reminders and events!

We also started naming Students and Employees of the Month. These individuals will be recognized each month on TNN and given a small token of appreciation. We are extremely excited to announce that we will be continuing the Watch D.O.G.’s program again this year. Please check out this link for more information! http://www.fathers.com/watchdogs/

There will also be a continued focus on our Kids at Hope belief system. Every staff member in our district has been trained and we believe that all children are capable of success, NO EXCEPTIONS!

I look forward to getting to know each and every one of you! If I can be of service in any way, please don’t hesitate to contact me!

Sincerely,

Liz Giacovelli

Liz Giacovelli, Principal