

Fourth Avenue Junior High Tardy Policy

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Getting to school by 8:32 A.M. insures your child the opportunity to prepare for the day. Students arriving late to class miss out on the teacher's directions and instruction. It is very important that students be on campus at 8:32 A.M. when the bell rings to begin the school day. It is equally important that students be at school for the entire day so as not to miss instruction. Your child will be counted tardy or absent if they leave school early without turning in a doctor's note to excuse them for missing school.

Schools stress the need for students to get to school and class on time with good reason. Studies conducted by the U.S. Department of Education on truancy, which is connected with tardiness, show that school attendance is a major factor when it comes to school success and student behavior.

- **Academics and Achievement:** Students who are frequently tardy have lower GPAs, lower scores on standardized assessments, and lower graduation rates. Chronic tardiness in elementary and middle school is also linked to failure in high school.
- **Behavior Problems:** Tardiness causes students to feel disconnected with school, leading to behavior problems and dropouts.
- **Job Performance:** Students who are frequently tardy to school are also more apt to be fired from a job for showing up late.
- **Effect on Others:** When students are tardy, they negatively impact their teachers and other students. Teachers are forced to restructure their lessons or reteach missed material. Tardiness also takes others students' attention away from a teacher's lesson, leading to more behavior problems and missed instruction.

Consequences for Being Tardy to School

In order to reduce the number of students who are tardy to school, the following consequences will be enforced for unexcused tardies. (Unexcused tardies are tardies that do not have valid documentation of the tardy such as doctor or dental appointments.)

- Second Tardy/Early Pick-up-Student will receive a warning
- Third Tardy/Early Pick-up-Student will receive lunch detention
- Fourth Tardy/Early Pick-up-Student will be assigned a 1 hour after school detention
- Fifth Tardy/Early Pick-up-Student will be assigned a 2 hour after school detention and their attendance files will be submitted to the Yuma County Juvenile Center for truancy.
- Sixth and subsequent Tardies/early Pick-up-Student will not be permitted to attend extra-curricular activities such as dances, sporting events, field trips, etc.

*****Please note: Students will start with a clean slate at the beginning of every quarter.

Please sign below that you have received the above information and return the paper to school with your child.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Student Name

Date

1st Period Teacher: _____