

Parents, Guardians, Students, and Alumni:

Welcome to Tartesso Elementary School, home of the Tigers. We are a K-8 school in the Saddle Mountain Unified School District with just over 400 students in Buckeye, Arizona. 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. Through our mission 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. The future is bright!

Many exciting things will be happening this year! Saddle Mountain Unified School District is pleased to announce that we will continue offering a 1 to 1 student to computer ratio. K-1 students will be utilizing Samsung tablets, while 2-8th grade students will be working with chromebooks. Our 4th and 5th grade classes receive weekly coding classes, and all students in grades 4th-8th have a technology class twice a week. 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. K-2 students will be participating monthly in science, creative writing, cooking, art, gymnastics, Legos, and Reader's Theater during the school day. Also, our 4-8 grade gifted students will be participating in a class entitled Global inventors, which will involve a 3D printer!

We plan to offer 22 after school program this year!! These programs include Surf N' Chess, Engineering, Kids Connection, Yearbook, Soccer, Art, Crazy Crafting, Intro to Lego Robotics, Advanced Lego Robotics, Typing, Creative Kids Club, Readers Theater, Volleyball Club, Homework Club, Creative Crafting, Board Game Club, Fitness Club, Open Library and Student Council. In addition, we offer two clubs that have competed at the state level: Odyssey of the Mind and Vex Robotics. 6th-8th 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.

We are excited to announce that we will continue offering two Leadership Programs this year for our 6th-8th grade students: Junior National Honors Society and Youth for Youth. Students have to apply to be selected for these programs while teachers and administration will give input to select students that exhibit strong leadership qualities. We feel these two programs will enhance our school by setting high standards for all students and educate them about the ways to become a positive role model by leading in the right way. We also selected 3 students to represent Tartesso Elementary School as Chief Science Officers this year. They participated in a summer camp at Grand Canyon University and will meet regularly with other schools to enhance our STEM programs!

Tartesso Elementary School continues to offer sports for 5th-8th grade students this year. We have our own teams for girls volleyball and boys basketball and this year we are adding a co-ed soccer team and flag football! We join with Ruth Fisher, our sister K-8 school in Tonopah, to allow students to participate in girls basketball, boys baseball, and girls softball.

Big Brothers Big Sisters and KONA ICE have partnered with us by providing fundraising opportunities for our school this year. 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.

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 the Principal. They also receive certificates and are acknowledged on our Facebook Page, "Tartesso Elementary School." Please check out our page for important reminders and events!

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 Burton