

Mrs. Carin J. Garton
Principal

August 19, 2008

Ms. Debora Saunders
Vice Principal

Dear Parents,

15272 West Gabriela Drive
Surprise, Arizona 85379
Phone: 623-523-8500
Fax: 623-523-8511
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Rancho Gabriela Elementary School is committed to providing a premier education to every child who enters a classroom. This commitment is hindered when students are tardy or absent from school. Important instructional minutes are lost when students are not in the room ready to learn on time. There are many studies which show that attendance rates are directly related to student achievement. Attendance is the first step in helping your child meet or exceed state standards and perform well on the AIMS test this spring. Getting to class on time and prepared to learn is equally important. Students sometimes feel embarrassed when they are late and the disruption to the remainder of the class is unnecessary. We ask that you ensure your children arrive to school on time and ready to learn, each day.

www.dysart.org

When a tardy cannot be avoided, parents must bring their child to school and sign the student in at the front office. As stated in the Dysart Unified School District Student and Parent Handbook, "A parent/guardian who brings a student to school after the academic day begins **must** accompany the student to the office and sign the student in to school. A note or phone call from the parent/guardian is **not** sufficient. Students who are not accompanied by the parent/guardian, will be considered an unexcused tardy" (page v).

After the third (3rd) unexcused tardy, the following will occur:

- * **Telephone call home from classroom teacher**
- * **Lunch detention**
- * **Every unexcused tardy thereafter will result in a lunch detention**

Should you have any questions, or if we can provide you with assistance in reducing tardies, please contact us at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Superintendent
Gail Pletnick, Ed.D.

Mrs. Carin J. Garton

Governing Board
William Lipscomb
Charles Otterman
Bridget Pauletich-Otterman
Mike Planeta
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