



ALTA MURRIETA
ELEMENTARY
“PURSUING EXCELLENCE”

August 29, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian;

Our goal this year and every year is to ensure every student attends school regularly. At Alta Murrieta we work hard to ensure that your student receives the best education possible. While we understand that illness strikes from time to time, our attendance goal for students is “*On Time, All the Time.*” This year we are specifically looking to reduce the amount of instructional time missed due to tardies. Instructional time is precious, and our teachers strive to begin lessons as soon as possible after the bell rings. With that in mind, please be sure to have your child arrive at school on time. For example, if the line-up bell for a first grader rings at 8:45, we want to make sure the student is on campus and ready to line up at 8:45. Arriving just five minutes late each day amounts to over three days of missed instruction over the course of the school year! Please see the attached bell schedules containing start times for each grade level.

September is Attendance Awareness Month, and we’ve planned some fun activities to help promote good attendance during the month.

- Tuesday, September 6 – Jersey Day: Team up with friends to arrive on time, all the time
- Monday, September 12 – Crazy Socks Day: It’s just plain *crazy* to miss school
- Monday, September 19 – Super Hero Day: **Here, Every day, Ready, On-time**
- Monday, September 26 – Cape Day: We are all *cape*-able of being at school on time, all the time

Thank you for your support in promoting good attendance for your student! Here are a few reminders about Murrieta Valley Unified School District’s attendance policy:

- Attendance letters (“First Notification of Truancy”) are mailed out after three (3) unexcused absences. Please be sure to call or email the office to excuse absences.
- Many parents are unaware that “going out of town” with their children is an unexcused absence.
- If the student is out for illness, attendance letters are sent after ten (10) absences.
- Students who accumulate excessive absences and/or tardies may be sent to a hearing with the District’s School Attendance Review Board.

If you have any questions or concerns, we are here to help! You can contact our attendance clerk, Leslie Hernandez, in the school office who will be happy to help you better understand the guidelines for our students. We look forward to partnering with you!

Brent Coley

Principal