THMS B.O.L.T. Expectations: Being On Time to Class

Dear Thunder Families,

As we begin the school year, we are taking time to explicitly teach and reinforce our school-wide expectations with students. One area of focus is ensuring that students arrive to school and each of their classes on time and ready to learn.

Being on time is an important part of our B.O.L.T. expectations and helps us maximize instructional time while creating consistent routines throughout the school.

What is considered tardy?

At Tony Hillerman Middle School, students are expected to be inside the classroom door when the tardy bell has stopped ringing. Students who are still in the hallway or have not entered their classroom when the bell finishes ringing will be considered tardy.

Teachers may establish additional expectations for their individual classrooms, such as having students in their assigned seats or prepared with materials when class begins. If a teacher has additional classroom-specific expectations, those expectations will be communicated directly to students and families.

What happens when a student is tardy?

Our goal is to address tardiness early and help students develop positive habits rather than simply assign consequences. Teachers will address tardies through their classroom management plans and may provide classroom-level consequences when students are not meeting expectations.

The school will also monitor tardy data throughout the year. Quarterly reports will be reviewed to identify patterns of repeated tardiness, and families may be contacted when concerns arise. Students who demonstrate a chronic pattern of tardiness may receive additional interventions and support. When necessary, written referrals may also be used to address ongoing concerns as disruptive conduct.

How families can help

We appreciate your partnership in reinforcing the importance of being on time. Please talk with your student about:

- Arriving at school with enough time to be ready for the beginning of the school day.
- Moving directly to the next class during passing periods.
- Using passing periods appropriately so they are inside the classroom before the tardy bell finishes ringing.

- Talking with a teacher, counselor, or administrator if there is an ongoing issue that is making it difficult to arrive to class on time.

Middle school is an important time for students to develop habits around responsibility, time management, and preparedness. By working together and maintaining consistent expectations, we can protect instructional time and help all of our students be successful.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support as we begin the school year.

We are Thunder!