

<<< TRUANCY WARNING NOTICE >>>
ROCKWALL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ATTENDANCE OFFICE
NOTICE: LAWS GOVERNING COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE IN TEXAS SCHOOLS
Failure to comply with the laws governing compulsory attendance may result in legal action.

OFFICIAL NOTICE TO THE CHILD AND PERSON(S) STANDING IN PARENTAL RELATION TO THE CHILD:

Texas requires a child who is at least 6 years of age, or who is younger than 6 years of age and has previously been enrolled in first grade, and who has **not yet reached his/her 18th birthday** to attend school unless exempt by Sec. 25.086. Students enrolled in pre-kindergarten or kindergarten shall attend school. **Education Code 25.085/RISD Policy FEA (Legal/Local)**

A student may not be given credit for a class unless the student is in attendance for at least 90 percent of the days class is offered. **Education Code 25.092/RISD FEC (Legal/Local)**

A **parent/guardian commits and offense** of thwarting compulsory attendance under **Education Code Sec. 25.093**, if, after having been warned in writing, a child has **unexcused** voluntary absences on 10 or more days or parts of days within a 6-month period or 3 or more days or parts of days within a 4-week period from school. An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500. **Education Code 25.093/Family Code 51.03(b) (2)/Penal Code 12.23**

A **“failure to attend school” offense may be filed against any juvenile under Education Code 25.094/Code of Criminal Procedure 45.054**, on a finding by a county, justice, or municipal court that an individual has committed an offense under Section 25.094, Education Code, the court has jurisdiction to enter an order that includes one or more of the following provisions requiring that:

- (1) The student:
 - (A) Attend school without unexcused absences;
 - (B) Attend a preparatory class for the high school equivalency examination administered under section 7.111, Education Code, if the court determines that the student is better suited for an alternative environment; or
 - (C) If the student is at least 16 years of age, take the high school equivalency examination administered under Section 7.111, Education Code;
- (2) The student attends a special program that the court determines to be in the best interest of the student including:
 - (A) An alcohol and drug abuse program;
 - (B) A rehabilitation program;
 - (C) A counseling program, including self-improvement counseling;
 - (D) A program that provides training in self-esteem and leadership;
 - (E) A work and job skills training program;
 - (F) A program that provides training in parenting, including parental responsibility;

A parent/guardian of a school age child has the responsibility to require that their child attend school regularly. When sickness or higher obligation necessitates an absence, a note signed by the parent/guardian explaining the reason for the absence is required the day the student returns to school. If a student fails to submit a note, the absence will be considered unexcused and the student will be allowed five (5) days to submit a written note excusing the absence*** **Education Code 25.87 (Excused Absence)** (a) A person required to attend school, including a person required to attend school under section 25.085(e), may be excused for temporary absence resulting from any cause acceptable to the teacher, principal, or superintendent of the school in which the person is enrolled.

(b) A school district shall excuse a student from attending school for the purpose of observing religious holidays, including traveling for that purpose. A school district shall excuse a student for temporary absence resulting from health care professionals if that student commences classes or returns to school on the same day of the appointment. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be counted as if the student attended school for purposes of calculating the average daily attendance of students in the school district. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection shall be allowed a reasonable time to make up school work missed on those days. If the student satisfactorily completes the school work, the day of absence shall be counted as a day of compulsory attendance. **Education Code 25.87/RISD Policy FEA (Legal/Local)**

When a student’s absence for personal illness forms a questionable pattern, the principal may require a statement from a physician or health clinic verifying the illness or other condition requiring the student’s extended absence from school (the school nurse is available to verify an illness the day of the absence). The attendance committee may, if the student has established a questionable pattern of absences, also require a physician’s or clinic’s statement of illness after a single day’s absence as a condition of classifying the absence as one for which there are extenuating circumstances. **RISD Policy FEC (Local) Personal Illness**

Unless specifically exempt, an enrolled student who is eligible **must attend** an extended-year program or required tutorials classes that is provided by the district for students identified as likely not to be promoted to the next grade level. (Saturday School, Thursday Night School, Tutorials and/or any after-hours school are considered to be extended-year programs.) **Education Code 25.086 and 29.084**

Absences such as vacations and trips (except those excused by the principal for unusual circumstances), babysitting, working (including modeling), and non-school-sponsored athletic events and programs shall be considered unexcused. **Education Code 25.087**

Please sign the ACKNOWLEDGEMENT below, and return the signed original to your child’s school. If you have any questions, you may contact the school your child is attending.

PRINCIPAL/DESIGNEE	SCHOOL	DATE
<<<<<ACKNOWLEDGMENT >>>>>		
I have received information governing compulsory attendance. My signature is as acknowledgment that I have received this Notice.		
STUDENT’S NAME: _____	GRADE: _____	ID# _____
ADDRESS: _____		TEXAS _____
MOTHER/GUARDIAN _____	HOME _____	WORK _____
FATHER/GUARDIAN _____	HOME _____	WORK _____
(MOTHER/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE)		(FATHER/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE)
(STUDENT SIGNATURE)		DATE