

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE/ TRUANCY WARNING NOTICE - EFFECTIVE: 1 SEPT '15

**PLANO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warning/English**

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 19th birthday** to attend school, unless exempt by **Sec. 25.086 of the Texas Education Code ("TEC")**.

Upon enrollment in pre-kindergarten or kindergarten, a child shall attend school. A person who voluntarily enrolls in school or voluntarily attends school after the person's 19th birthday shall attend school each school day for the entire period the program of instruction is offered and is subject to the same requirements for compulsory attendance for students under 19 years of age. **TEC Sections 25.085, 25.086**

A **parent/guardian commits an offense** of Parent Contributing to Non-Attendance under TEC Sec. 25.093, if, after having been warned in writing, a child has **unexcused** voluntary absences from school on **10 or more days or parts of days within a 6-month period**. An offense under Subsection (a) is a misdemeanor, punishable by fine only, in an amount not to exceed:

- (1) \$100.00 for a first offense;
- (2) \$200.00 for a second offense;
- (3) \$300.00 for a third offense;
- (4) \$400.00 for a fourth offense
- (5) \$500.00 for a fifth or subsequent offense. **TEC 25.093 / Texas Family Code 65.003(a)**

A "failure to attend school" violation by a student may be referred to truancy court. On a finding that the child has engaged in truant conduct, a justice or municipal court may order: **1)** The child to attend GED preparatory classes; **2)** The child to attend a special program that the court determines to be in the best interest of the child, including an alcohol/drug abuse program; **3)** rehabilitation; **4)** counseling, including self-improvement counseling; **5)** training in self-esteem and leadership; **6)** work and job skills training; **7)** training in parenting. Including parental responsibility; **8)** training in manners; **9)** training in violence avoidance; **10)** sensitivity training; **11)** the child and the child's parent/guardian attend a class for student at risk of dropping out of school; **12)** a program that provides training in advocacy and mentoring; **13)** complete not more than 50 hours of community service on a project acceptable to the court; and **14)** participate for a specified number of hours in a tutorial program covering the academic subjects in which the child is enrolled that are provided by the school the child attends. **Texas Family Code 65.003(a) / TEC 25.085**

Unless specifically exempt, an enrolled student who is eligible **must attend** an extended-year program or required tutorial classes that are provided by the district for students identified as likely not to be promoted to the next grade level. Tutorials and any other after hour's school are considered to be extended year programs. **TEC 25.085, 25.086, 29.084**

Except as provided by **TEC 25.092**, a student may not be given credit for a class unless the student is in attendance for at least 90 percent of the days the class is offered. **TEC 25.092, PISD / Policy FED (Local)**

A parent/guardian of a school age child has the responsibility to require their child attend school regularly. When sickness or higher obligation necessitate an absence, a note signed by a parent/guardian explaining the reason for the absence is required within 3 school days of when the student returns to school. If the student fails to submit a note, the absence will be considered unexcused. **TEC 25.093/ PISD Policy FEB (Regulation)**

A child not exempt from compulsory attendance laws may be excused for temporary absence resulting from any usual cause acceptable to the campus administrator of the school in which the student is enrolled. A temporary absence may be the result of, but not limited to: **1)** personal illness, **2)** family emergency, **3)** religious holy day, **4)** documented juvenile court proceeding, **5)** board-approved extracurricular activity or **6)** approved college visitation. **PISD Policy FEA (Legal)**

When a student's absence for personal illness exceeds seven (7) consecutive days, 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. **Plano ISD Policy FEC (Local) Personal Illness**

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. **PISD Policy FED (Local) / TEC 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

<<<<ACKNOWLEDGEMENT >>>>

I have received information governing compulsory attendance. My signature is only as acknowledgement that I have received this Notice.

STUDENT'S NAME: _____ **GRADE:** _____ **ID#** _____

ADDRESS: _____ **TEXAS** _____

MOTHER/GUARDIAN _____ **HOME #** _____ **WORK** _____
(SIGNATURE)

FATHER/GUARDIAN _____ **HOME #** _____ **WORK** _____
(SIGNATURE)

STUDENT _____ **DATE** _____
(SIGNATURE)