

## Aransas Pass ISD Attendance/Truancy Procedures and Texas State

### Compulsory Attendance Law

(TEC Section 25.085)

Students between the ages of 6 and 19 must attend school. Under §25.095 **if a student is absent on 10 or more days or \*parts of days within a 6 month period, the student's parent is subject to prosecution and the student age 12-18 is subject to referral to a truancy court.** If a student has three or more unexcused absences for three or more days or parts of days within a four-week period but less than 10 or more days or parts of days within a six-month period, the district shall initiate truancy prevention measures.

If a student who is 19 or older has 5 unexcused absences in a semester, the district may revoke the student's enrollment. Thereafter, the student's presence on school property would be considered trespassing. (see policy FEA.)

Students must be in attendance 90% of the time to receive credit/be promoted. Students who are at least six years of age, or who have been previously enrolled in the first grade, and who have not yet reached their 19th birthday shall attend school for the entire period the program is offered, unless exempted. Students enrolled in prekindergarten and kindergarten must abide by compulsory attendance law.

Per TEC, 25085 parts of days count towards truancy. If a student is more than 30 minutes late for school in the morning, or is picked up 30 minutes or more before the end of the school day, without a medical excuse, the absence will be counted as an unexcused absence for part of a day for truancy purposes. Per class period if a 6th – 12th grade student is 15 or more minutes late without excuse to a class, it will be coded as an unexcused absence for the class, and the absence will be counted as part of a day for truancy purposes.

Absence notes must be turned in to School Office by the third day after absence in order for absence to be considered excused. Five parent notes per semester will be accepted for absences to be considered excused, on the 6th absence per semester a note from a medical professional will be needed in order for the absence to be considered excused.

### Truancy Prevention Measures for Students PK – 3rd Grade

- **At 3** unexcused absences, an attendance letter will be mailed and a meeting scheduled with the parent or guardian and the Administrator. The Truancy Prevention Plan will be discussed with the parent/guardian, parent/guardian will sign the plan, and receive a copy of the Truancy Prevention Plan.
- **At 5** unexcused absences, an attendance letter will be mailed.
- **At 7** unexcused absences the truancy officer will do a home visit and/or contact the parent notifying them of the 7 unexcused absences.

- **At 10 absences, an attendance letter will be mailed and per Section 25.093 of the Texas Education Code, APISD has the authority to file a criminal complaint against parents who contribute to the non-attendance of their child, Section 25.093.**

**\*Per TEC, parts of days accumulate for truancy:**

**If a student is more than 30 minutes late for school in the morning, or is picked up 30 minutes or more before the end of the school day, without a medical excuse turned in to the campus office within 3 business days, the absence will be counted as an unexcused absence for part of a day for truancy purposes.**

## **Truancy Prevention Measures for Students 4<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- **At 3** unexcused absences, an attendance letter will be mailed. There will be a meeting scheduled with the parent or guardian, student, and Administrator. The Truancy Prevention Plan will be discussed with the parent/guardian and student, parent/guardian and student will sign the plan, and the parent will receive a copy of the Truancy Prevention Plan.
- **At 5** unexcused absences, there will be a meeting with the student and administrator. The student may be assigned school-based community service or other consequence at the discretion of the Administrator. The parent will be notified about the unexcused absences and any consequences assigned to the student.
- **At 7** unexcused absences, the student may be excluded from extra-curricular activities or other consequence at the discretion of the Administrator. The truancy officer will do a home visit and/or contact the parent concerning the absences and any consequence assigned by the Administrator.
- **At 10** unexcused absences, an attendance letter will be mailed and **per Section 25.093 of the Texas Education Code, APISD has the authority to file a criminal complaint against parents who contribute to the non-attendance of their child.**

**\*Per TEC, parts of days accumulate for truancy:**

**If a student is more than 30 minutes late for school in the morning, or is picked up 30 minutes or more before the end of the school day, without a medical excuse turned in to the campus office within 3 business days, the absence will be counted as an unexcused absence for part of a day for truancy purposes.**

**Per class period if a 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade student is 15 or more minutes late without excuse to a class, it will be coded as an unexcused absence for the class, and the absence will be counted as part of a day for truancy purposes.**

APISD is committed to student instruction and believes that full day attendance is vital to student success.