

## LISD Attendance/Dropout

### Prevention Specialists

Phone numbers and campus assignments

**Teri Mendez**

(512) 570-2322

**High Schools:** New Hope, Vandegrift, Cedar Park

**Middle Schools:** Canyon Ridge, Four Points

**Elementary Schools:** Bush, Cypress, Deer Creek, Grandview Hills, River Place, River Ridge, Steiner Ranch

**Sandy Scott**

(512) 570-1852

**High Schools:** New Hope, Vista Ridge

**Middle Schools:** Cedar Park, Henry, Stiles

**Elementary Schools:** Cox, Faubion, Naumann, Parkside, Reagan, Reed, Rutledge, Westside

**Olga Alvarado**

(512) 570-1079

**High Schools:** New Hope, Leander, Glenn

**Middle Schools:** Leander, Running Brushy

**Elementary Schools:** Giddens, Knowles, Mason, Whitestone, Winkley,

**Carrie Tawil**

(512) 570-2022

**High Schools:** New Hope, Rouse

**Middle School:** Wiley

**Elementary Schools:** Bagdad, Block House, Camacho, Pleasant Hill, Plain

**Mark Choat**

(512) 570-1831

All students served by Special Education

### Did you know...?

When your child is absent

- Your child loses an opportunity to learn and engage with his or her teachers and classmates.
- Teachers have to slow down classroom instruction to help him or her get caught up.

**Missing school matters!**



### Leander ISD

204 West South Street

Leander, TX 78641

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[leanderisd.org](http://leanderisd.org)



Leander Independent School District

## Frequently Asked Questions About Student Attendance



*Este folleto tiene respuestas a muchas preguntas acerca de evitar ausencias a la escuela. El folleto está disponible en español en cualquier escuela del distrito de Leander.*

## Attendance is the Key to Success!

Regular and punctual attendance is the greatest single factor in school success. Texas Compulsory Attendance Law requires students to attend school regularly, unless otherwise exempted by



law. It is the responsibility of the parent and student to cooperate and communicate with the school on all attendance matters. The key to high school graduation is strong school attendance and parental involvement.

### How can parents help?

- Make education a family priority.
- Build your child's self-confidence as a student by recognizing when he or she does well in school.
- Help your child develop good study and work habits.
- Schedule a daily period of home study time.
- Help with homework when needed.
- Help your child develop and achieve academic goals.
- Meet your child's teachers and other school personnel.
- Get to know your child's friends and class-mates.
- Find ways to discuss issues, subjects and course materials being covered at school.
- Don't let your child risk his or her future; make sure he or she attends school every day!

### Q: What do I do when my child is absent from school?

**A:** Please send a signed note with your child to school as soon as he/she returns.

All student absences must be verified in writing by a parent. Written verification of the absence must be received by the school within two (2) days of a student's return to school. It is best to submit a handwritten note directly to the attendance office. However, a faxed copy of a parent's note or a scanned and emailed copy of a parent's note is acceptable. Both faxed and emailed notes must have an original parent's signature (not a typed cursive font).

### All Notes Should Include:

- Student's full legal name
- Student ID# and grade
- Date(s) of absence
- Reason for absence
- Parent signature (not a typed cursive font)
- Parent phone number
- Current date

### Sample Note:



*Las notas son aceptadas en ingles o español.*

### Did you know...?

In a study conducted from 2007-2009, Leander ISD found that students with 10 or more unexcused absences in a single school year were **15.5 times more likely** to drop out of high school.

**Missing school matters!**

### Q: What are the Texas Attendance Laws?

**A:** Section 65.003 of the Texas Family Code states: (a) A child engages in truant conduct if the child is required to attend school under 25.085, Education Code, and fails to attend school on 10 or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year.

### Q: What is the 90% Rule?

**A:** Texas Education Code Section 25.092 states, "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." This means that students will need to make-up class time missed due to excessive absences. **Even if your child has excused absences, he or she may be asked to make up class time to earn credit for classes.**

### Q: What if I disagree with the school?

**A:** If you feel your child's circumstances warrant additional consideration before making up class time, talk with your child's Assistant Principal about the campus attendance appeals process.

### Q: What is an excused absence?

**A:** Excused absences are not viewed as days a student is entitled to take. Excused absences include, but are not limited to, personal illness, funeral/memorial, quarantine or weather or road conditions that make travel dangerous.

### Q: What is an unexcused absence?

**A:** An unexcused absence is any absence that does not meet the definition of an excused absence (example: personal business or vacation).