



BLOOMINGTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Texas Truancy and Attendance Laws

It is each parent's duty to require his or her school-aged children to attend school, monitor the students' attendance, and request a conference with school officials to discuss any attendance concerns. At Bloomington High School, a student must attend at least 90 percent of the days the course meets during the school year in order to receive credit for a course. If too many classes are missed, an "NG" is entered instead of a grade, and parents must contact the school to see what corrective steps must be taken.

State law ([Texas Education Code Section 25.085](#); PDF) provides that if a student is absent from school without parental consent for any portion of the school day for three days in a four-week period or for ten or more days in a six-month period, the student and/or the student's parent or legal guardian are subject to civil prosecution by the truancy court. In the event the student fails to obey the order issued by the civil courts, the student may also be referred to a juvenile court, which will determine whether the students should be adjudicated delinquent and referred for supervision by the juvenile probation authorities.

The Principal may excuse absences for personal illness, death in the family, or other legitimate reasons. Teachers will give students an opportunity to make up work for all absences. For more information, please contact BHS principal at (361) 333-8011.

BISD DROPOUT PREVENTION PROGRAM

Reducing the dropout rate by 50% annually is a major district initiative. Recognizing that early intervention and recovery are critical, the district has structured prevention and intervention efforts in grades pre-kindergarten through twelve. Campus Improvement Plans (CIPs) have incorporated best practices into strategies which address dropout prevention and intervention. The following list exemplifies some strategies which the district and schools have identified as having a positive impact on students:

- Community Collaboration- Communities in Schools
- Individualized Instruction-Dual Credit option (transition opportunities)
- Career education and workforce readiness- CTE certifications
- Mentoring/Tutoring (Mid Coast Family Services)
- Family Engagement
- Friday School opportunities
- Intervention Classes

TRACKING PROCEDURE

All school personnel must make every effort to identify the reasons students leave school and develop strategies to provide an environment for all students to graduate from high school. At the time of withdrawal, parents are requested to sign indicating their intent to enroll their child in another school and, if known, the name of the receiving school district. This information is coded into the student software system as a leaver record, indicating the specific reason that student left the school (*TEA Student Withdrawal/Record Transfer Form*).

In the early fall, the campus secretary runs a report for each school listing all students who were coded as leaving with the intent to enroll in another school but who did not actually enroll in another school. If these students' records are not corrected, they will be reported to PEIMS as dropouts. Therefore, it is vital that each school monitors all students that withdraw and makes sure students are enrolled in another school or return to the home school. School personnel should attempt to contact these students' families to determine the student's current school status.

After several attempts to locate the student, a referral should be made to the Attendance Clerks assigned to work with the school. The Attendance Clerks visit students at school and at home, advocate for students to return to school, and facilitate enrollment in alternative schools, if necessary. Information on required documentation is available in the PEIMS Data Standards available at the TEA Website at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/peims>