

School Attendance Matters

Alpine Elementary School 432-837-7730

There are many reasons for your child to be in school everyday, on time. Most importantly, every minute they are out of class, your child is missing out on important learning time. However, there are also legal reasons for your child to be in school.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE LAW AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

THERE ARE 5 REASONS FOR AN EXCUSED ABSENCE:

1. *RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY*
2. *ILLNESS OF THE CHILD*
3. *COURT APPOINTMENT* that the child is required to attend
4. *HUMAN SERVICES APPT* that the child is required to attend
5. *PRE-APPROVED REASON* permitted by school principal

IMPORTANT:

- In order for an absence to be excused, a note **must** be turned in **within 3 days**.
- If a student is out sick for 3 or more days, a doctor's note is needed in order for the absence to be excused.
- A parent or sibling's illness/appointment **is not** an excusable absence unless it has been pre-approved by the principal.
- This Texas law also applies to Pre-K and Kindergarten students.

ACCORDING TO TEXAS LAW:

- * AISD *can* file a complaint against a parent/guardian in court if the student has 3 or more unexcused absences within 4 weeks.
- * AISD *must* file a complaint against a parent/guardian in court if a student has 10 or more unexcused absences within 6 months

HELPFUL TIPS:

- * If a child has a doctor's appointment and attends the appointment during school hours, the child will not have an absence if he/she returns to school that same day with a doctor's note.
- * Don't try to get to the school at exactly 7:45. Remember that the school opens at 7:30. It's better to be early than it is to be late. Adults are on duty to supervise your child at 7:30 a.m.
- * Turn notes for absences **in directly to the office** whenever possible.