

**LISD Attendance/
Dropout Prevention Specialists**

Phone numbers and campus assignments.

Teri Mendez

(512) 570-2022

Rouse High School, Vandegrift High School and Cedar Park High School
Canyon Ridge Middle School, Four Points Middle School and Wiley Middle School
Bush Elementary, Block House Creek Elementary, Grandview Hills Elementary, Parkside Elementary, Plain Elementary, Pleasant Hill Elementary, River Place Elementary, Steiner Ranch Elementary and River Ridge Elementary

Sandy Scott

(512) 570-1852

Cedar Park High School, Vista Ridge High School and New Hope High School
Cedar Park Middle School, Henry Middle School and Florence W. Stiles Middle School
Cox Elementary, Cypress Elementary, Deer Creek Elementary, Faubion Elementary, Naumann Elementary, Reagan Elementary, Rutledge Elementary and Westside Elementary

Olga Alvarado

(512) 570-1079

Leander High School and Cedar Park High School
Leander Middle School and Running Brushy Middle School
Bagdad Elementary, Giddens Elementary, Knowles Elementary, Mason Elementary, Reed Elementary, Whitestone Elementary and Winkley Elementary

Amy Woodul

(512) 570-1888

All students served by Special Education

The Student Support Services Attendance/Dropout Prevention Team is a division of the LISD School Improvement Department.

Did you know...?

When your child is absent

- Your child's 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.
- LISD loses valuable funding.

Missing school matters!



Leander ISD

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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 es 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?

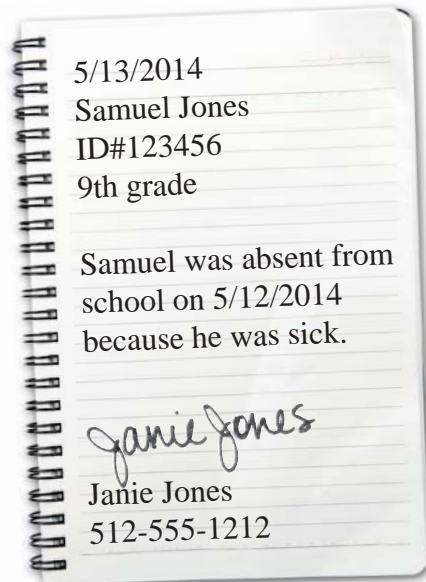
A: Please send a signed note with your child to school as soon as he/she returns.

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 hand-written 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 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 25.094 of the Texas Education Code states: Failure to Attend School (a) An individual commits an offense if the individual:

- (1) Is required to attend school under Section 25.085; and
- (2) Fails to attend school on three (3) or more days or parts of days within a four-week period or on ten (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).