

Attendance Notifications in Stafford MSD

Parents at **Stafford MSD (or school name)** know that any time their child is absent from school; they receive a phone call or a recorded message notification from the school. Parents can then confirm, with the school, that your child is safe and inform them of the reason for the absence.

As of February 2019, Stafford MSD has implemented an updated system for contacting parents through the mail regarding your child's attendance. We will be notifying parents of unexcused and excused absences, with the goal of supporting your family in reducing future student absences. You may have received a letter from our school regarding these absences earlier this year. If we have already communicated regarding these absences, we appreciate your dedication to keeping your child in school every day. If we have not had the opportunity to talk, we would welcome the opportunity to meet with you.

The first Truancy Notification informs parents of unexcused absences as defined by Texas compulsory attendance laws, meaning your child has missed three (3) or more days or parts of days within a four-week period. At 6 or more unexcused days, parents will be asked to meet with the school to review absences and work on solutions to address attendance concerns. At 9 or more absences you may be required to appear before School Attendance Review Board. Our top priority is to collaborate with you.

We will also be communicating if your student has an excessive number of excused absences or is at risk of becoming chronically absent. The key purpose is to work with our families on the importance of regular attendance which gives our schools the best opportunity to provide a quality education for all children.

It is imperative that parents contact the school to verify student absences. Avoid unnecessary and frequent absences and late arrivals. We understand that there are certainly illnesses and circumstances where a child may have to miss school but we need our students to attend every day possible, on time, engaged and ready to learn. Our entire school team is committed to working with our parents to accomplish this goal.

Thank you for your efforts to have your child attend school on time and regularly each and every day. We know a majority of our students have good attendance habits and we appreciate the efforts that parents make in order to have this happen. Please work with your school when there are attendance issues so we do our best for your child.