



**“We Serve,
Students Win”**



TAHOKA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

1925 Ave P, Tahoka, TX 79373 (806) 561-4538
www.tahokaisd.us

TISD Truancy Warning Measures 2022-23

This is a reminder that by State of Texas Law, your child must attend school. **Tahoka ISD** attendance policies are available online at www.tahokaisd.org.

Your child's presence at school matters for their learning, the success of our schools, and for essential funding. School attendance is a baseline factor in determining school success. A missed school day is a missed opportunity for students to learn. Regular attendance fosters a classroom connection between teachers and students. Attending school also provides time for social interactions with peers. By law, Texas schools are required to take attendance for three purposes:

- Average Daily Attendance (ADA)- The State of Texas uses this to determine school funding for each district. Tahoka schools take attendance at 10:00 AM each day and submit this data to the State.
- 90% Rule-Students in KG-12th grade must be in attendance for 90% of the school days in order to receive credit for a class or grade level. All absences count towards the 90% rule, regardless if they are excused or unexcused.
- Compulsory Attendance- This is also known as truancy. State law requires students between the ages of 6-19 who have not met graduation requirements to be enrolled in school. Students voluntarily enrolled in PK and KG must also follow Compulsory Attendance laws.

The steps Tahoka ISD will take to communicate with you regarding Compulsory Attendance are as follows:

- When your child has accrued three unexcused absences in a four-week time frame, you will receive a 3-day letter from the campus administrator to notify you of these absences.
- When your child has accrued six unexcused absences, you will receive a phone call from the campus administrator to notify you of these absences and discuss with you the need for an attendance improvement plan if your child reaches ten unexcused absences. You will also receive a six-day letter.
- When your child has accrued ten unexcused absences within a 6-month period, you will receive a phone call from the campus administrator to schedule an attendance meeting where a plan will be put in place to improve your child's attendance at school. A 10-day letter will also be sent home.

Excused absences are excluded from Truancy with the proper documentation and include:

- Religious Holidays with written request prior to the absence
- Attending a required court appearance
- UIL eligible absences- Educational Competition administered by school staff
 - Academic, Athletic, and Music Contests (uilex.org)
- Medical-Related absences, when the student attended a portion of the school day and presents documentation from the health care professional for the same day (schools receive state funding for these absences)
- All day Medical-Related absences when Medical Documentation provided within five days of the absence to the campus (schools DO NOT receive state funding for these absences)
- Sounding “Taps” at a military honors funeral held in Texas
- Students, age 15 or older, obtaining their driver's permit or driver's license. One excused absence allowed for each purpose with appropriate documentation.



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Finally, we are aware students may become ill and need to stay home even though they may not require care from a medical professional. The district will recognize three parent notes for illness only each semester that will be counted as excused absences; these notes need to be provided to the campus within 5 days of the absence.

Once your child is in jeopardy of losing credit due to the 90% attendance rule, Tahoka ISD will implement the following truancy prevention measures so that your child may receive credit for the semester:

- Saturday School – These are served at Tahoka High School in the Library from 8:00am – 11:30am. Students must be in the building by 8:00am or they will not be allowed in the building. One Saturday School will take the place of one absence.
- After School Community Service – assisting our custodial staff in making ready our campus for the next school day. This time will be Monday-Friday from 4:00pm-5:30pm. Two days of community service will equal one absence.