

Rowland Attendance Policy

At Rowland Elementary, we take attendance very seriously. Our attendance plan keeps close track of attendance, ensures greater safety for our students, provides services for our families having problems and develops school-wide incentives for good attendance. As a school we want to know where our children are everyday; we want to be helpful to families who need assistance; and we want to congratulate and celebrate with children and families who are helping to make good attendance a reality at Rowland.

One important way you can help is to call the school when your child is absent. A PHONE CALL DOES NOT EXCUSE AN ABSENCE. The VISD Code of Conduct specifies that when returning to school following an absence, a student must bring a note, signed by the parent/guardian, that describes the reason for the absence. This note must be submitted no later than five (5) school days after the student absence. When a student's absence for personal illness is three or more consecutive days, the student must present a statement from a physician or health clinic verifying the illness or condition. If the student has established a questionable pattern of absences, the attendance committee may also require a physician's clinic statement of illness after a single day absence.

We will follow the VISD Code of Conduct rule and will only excuse absences with a note. When the note is received we will determine whether or not the absence is excused or unexcused. Out of town trips are not excused.

Attendance is taken daily at 9:30 a.m. In order for your child to be counted present, he/she must be in school at this time. Children leaving school after 9:30 a.m. will be considered present for the day. Students counted absent at 9:30 (due to a doctor's appointment) will be given credit for attendance if a note is brought from the doctor and school is attended for any part of that school day. We will offer incentives during the year to encourage children's attendance in school. Perfect attendance will be recognized throughout the school year.

Perfect attendance incentives include:

- A flag will be displayed outside the room daily for classroom perfect attendance
- Classes will earn a letter toward spelling PERFECT ATTENDANCE each day the whole class is present. Classes will receive an ice cream party once "perfect attendance" has been spelled and then the class will work towards it again.
- Students will track attendance daily on a class chart and monthly in their data binder.
- Students who have perfect attendance for the nine weeks, will attend a perfect attendance party and will receive a spirit stick.
- Students who have perfect attendance for the year will receive a trophy.