

Dear Eagle Families,

Welcome back to school. We are pleased to announce our Attendance Incentive Program has been modified for the 23-24 school year! Here are a couple of the most exciting changes:

1. High School students who have perfect attendance during the Official Attendance Taking time will be awarded an additional semester exam exemption!!
2. All campus incentives and prizes will be based on the Official Attendance Taking time only.

Official Attendance-Taking Times

High School	9:10
Middle School	8:20
Intermediate School	9:25
Elementary School	9:45
Early Childhood Center	10:15/ 2:00*
DAEP	9:15

*2:00 is for half-day PM classes at ECC

Did you know?

If your student has a medical appointment and attends some portion of the school day on the same day, the absence will not count against them. Be sure to send the doctor's note.

Communication to and from School

As part of our effort to encourage strong attendance, we have procedures in place to identify students who may be missing too much school. These procedures include:

- Parent notification letters
- Parent phone calls or conferences
- Individual student plans with academic supports, such as tutoring

Parent notification letters serve two purposes:

1. To keep you informed of the number of absences your child has accumulated and of the laws developed by the State of Texas that pertain to missed days;
2. To assist parents in proactively managing their student's attendance.

Compulsory Attendance

Truancy

Truancy is defined as school days missed without a valid excuse. Parent notification letters will begin when a student accumulates 3 unexcused absences. If unexcused absences continue to accumulate, parents and students will work with campus administrators to build a plan to minimize further unexcused events. Our letters are sent every couple of weeks, so please get your valid excuse notes in as soon as possible to avoid unnecessary truancy notifications.

90% or Credit Rule

The State has determined a student must be in attendance for a minimum of 90% of time the course is offered. Courses are offered by semester at the High School and annually for grades PK-8. As a way of monitoring this, our campuses will send a parent notification letter as soon as a student has accrued too many absences.

Exemptions to Compulsory Attendance

The State allows exemptions to compulsory attendance requirements for several types of absences if the student makes up all work. A list of state exempt absences can be found on page 29-30 of the Student Handbook.

Locally Excused Absences & Communication

BHISD approves additional excused absences, such as illness, when a student does miss school. Although BHISD considers these absences excused, please keep in mind they do not qualify for exemptions to Compulsory Attendance and will count towards missed class time under the 90% or Credit Rule, as well as campus incentives.

If a student's absence qualifies as excused, please send a note to the school explaining the reason. Notes must include the following and should be sent to school within 3 days upon the student's return:

- The date of the note
- The name of the child (first and last)
- The date of the absence
- The specific reason for the absence

Should you have any questions about the student attendance policy or procedures, please contact your Campus Administrator or Attendance Clerk.