

February 20, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



CARROLL
Independent School District

Carroll ISD Emphasizes Student Attendance to Maximize Funding

Southlake, TX - Over the past year, Carroll ISD has made efforts to educate our community on school funding in Texas and the current budget challenges districts are facing across the state. One such challenge is the state funding formula, which calculates school funding based on *Average Daily Attendance (ADA)* vs *Enrollment*. This can present a challenge because, while school districts must staff and otherwise prepare for 100% student attendance, the state only provides funding for actual student attendance.

ADA is calculated by adding attendance counts throughout the year and then dividing that by the number of instructional days. Texas is one of only six states which calculate funding based on attendance instead of enrollment. This funding approach underscores the critical importance of consistent school attendance for our Dragons.

Simply put: the more students present in the classroom each day, the more financial support districts receive from the state. The impact of consistent attendance is substantial - each 1% increase in the CISD attendance rate nets an additional approximately \$670,000 in annual funding.

Parents play a vital role in maximizing ADA funding for their children's schools by making sure their kids attend school every day.

Recognizing that every day a student is present impacts the school's financial resources, parents are encouraged to prioritize regular attendance and minimize absences, including avoiding absences for non-urgent reasons like extended spring breaks or vacations. Parents are also encouraged to schedule appointments and activities outside of school hours or to schedule at a time that ensures their student is present each day when attendance is taken – 10am. Please note, even excused absences negatively impact CISD funding.

At a time when many school districts are struggling with ongoing budget difficulties, the efforts of parents in prioritizing their children's attendance are appreciated. Their commitment to ensuring students are present and engaged in learning not only fosters academic success but also directly supports the financial health of the district. This collective commitment to maximizing ADA funding underscores the collaborative effort needed to provide quality education and opportunities for every student at CISD.