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ATTENDANCE RULES

Please refer to the attendance pages in the online Student Handbook for complete rules & guidelines.

What do I do when my Child will be absent due to illness, family medical emergency or family death?

To ensure your child's absence is excused due to the reasons listed above, please **send a note** with your child. Phone calls or voicemails from a parent may be left on the attendance line: 469-713-5977 Option 1. Emails can be sent to the attendance clerk with a note of explanation, parent name and contact phone number. **Only 8 PARENT-EXCUSED absences are allowed.** Doctor notes are required after the 8th parent note. Absences will be unexcused otherwise and truancy policies will go into effect.

***** **ONLY 8 PARENT-EXCUSED absences are allowed per year! Use them sparingly.** *****

To ensure the absence is excused, ALL NOTES must be received WITHIN 3 DAYS OF THE ABSENCE. Any note **after 3 days** will result in an **unexcused** absence. Medical appointments causing a child to miss **any** part of school must have a medical note for the absence or partial absence to be excused. Vacation days must have a pre-planned absence form turned in preferably 5 days **before** the absence is to take place.

Homework : Your child was given access to all school websites by their respective teachers and should use those sites themselves to retrieve assignments if a computer is accessible or if the student has a District IPAD.

Pre-Planned Absences (i.e. Vacation):

Absences **not** relating to medical issues or LISD school activities may be excused by completing a Pre-Planned Absence Form **before the child misses school.** Pick up a form in the Front Office, Attendance office or print from KMS' website in the parents/forms section. There are only **FOUR STEPS TO FOLLOW.**

If the procedure is not followed, the absences will be unexcused. This is a District-wide policy. Per District Policy, only 5 "Personal Days" per child per year will be allowed.

An **unexcused absence** means that the child will receive zeros on all work missed/due. 3 or more unexcused absences in a 4 week period or 10 within 6 months could result in legal action under Section 25.094 of the Texas Education Code for the offense 'Failure to Attend School'. Please view the LISD Truancy Prevention Letter to Parents on KMS' website for details. *Part of a day includes missing more than 4 minutes in any class.

How do I take my student out of school during the day?

If a student needs to leave campus early for a medical appointment, (therapy, check-up, dental, etc.) the parent/guardian* must come in and sign the student out. A picture ID is required every visit. When leaving the appointment, ask the medical office for a school note for the absence to be excused. They can also be faxed to: KMS (214) 626-1714. **If the student bypasses the nurse** and contacts their parent to be picked up, the **absence will be unexcused** unless a medical note for that same day is returned.

* If an emergency contact will pick up your student, contact the front office to let them know.

FRONT OFFICE: 469.713.5977 Option 0

Absence Policy

A student must attend at least 90 percent of the days that the class is offered. A student who attends fewer than 90 percent of the days the class is offered must attend Thursday Night Schools and/or Saturday School to recoup their absences to progress to the next grade. Time spent on night performances/games/school practices/tutoring, etc. **does not** count toward the 90%. It is purely “seat time,” meaning time spent being instructed by a teacher. Ballet/dance/sports appointments are not considered medical unless they are restorative in nature and a therapy notice is provided (i.e. physical therapy). *

Accumulating Absences

Each absence for each class is accrued by class period. For example, if a student is signed out for the last 15 minutes of 8th period 19 times due to illness or other excuse, that child will be counted absent and will be required to attend Thursday night school/s, repeat the grade, take summer school or have their case presented to the Attendance Committee. See Absence Policy above. The partial day absence is not excused.

Tardy Policy

A student is considered tardy if they are not in the classroom when the bell is sounded. A student is considered tardy at the discretion of the teacher/team if no bell is applicable. Tardies are cumulative by semester per teacher and will be reset each semester for school purposes but continue to accrue throughout the school year for Truancy purposes. Killian consequences for tardies are:

- 1st tardy = warning
- 2nd tardy = warning + parent phone call
- 3rd tardy = 30 minute teacher detention
- 4th tardy = 1 hour teacher detention
- 5th tardy = office referral

All trancies or incidents of skipping class are unexcused absences. This includes late arrival to school. Truancy is a violation of the Texas attendance laws & **truancy charges may be filed with the Denton County juvenile authorities**. A student is considered truant when absent for all or part of the day (**tardy**) without parent /guardian knowledge or consent. Disciplinary action will result according to the Student Code of Conduct. According to section 25.095 of Texas Education Code, if a student is absent from school without an excuse under section 25.087 for ten (10) or more days or parts of days (**tardy**) within a six month period in the same school year or on three or more days or parts of days (**tardy**) within a four-week period: **(1)the student’s parent is subject to prosecution** under Section 25.093; &**(2)the student is subject to prosecution** under Section 25.094.

What if my Contact Information or Home address changes?

For **change of address**, please send in a current gas, water or electric bill to the office and include your student's name on the bill. If changes/updates need to be made to contacts, phone numbers, etc. please update your info using your Skyward Family Access.

Arriving Late

If a student is not in their seat when the tardy bell rings, they are considered tardy. After the tardy bell rings at 8:55, they must enter through the main office doors and sign in at the Front Office. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action. Unexcused tardies to the first period of school contributes to Truancy. A Tardy is "part of a day". 10 or more unexcused absences for days or parts of days will result in a truancy charge being filed against the parent &/or student with the Denton Court.