

# 2015-2016 Truancy Law

**During the recently completed legislative session, the 84<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature approved – and Governor Greg Abbott signed into law – legislation that makes changes to current law as it relates to truancy and on-campus student discipline.**

## **House Bill 2398**

- **The offense of a parent contributing to nonattendance remains a Class C misdemeanor...**
- **On the third unexcused absence within a four week period, a school must initiate a truancy prevention program for the student.**
- **A child commits truancy if the student is 12-18 years of age and is required to attend school under Texas Education Code (TEC) Section 25.085; and fails to attend school on 10 or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year.**

## **Absences Counted DO NOT Include:**

- ✓ **Field Trips**
- ✓ **UIL Trips**
- ✓ **Holy Days**
- ✓ **School Related Absences**
- ✓ **Medical Absences**
- ✓ **CPS Visits**
- ✓ **Election Clerk**

**Must be documented as medical by a valid medical note**

**Please be sure to call your Campus to make them aware of all absences.**

**Middle School**

**Ginger Plunk**

**903-425-5169**