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**HARRIS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
MIKE ANDERSON

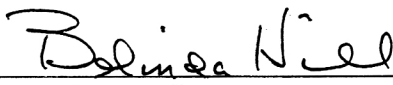
Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The Harris County District Attorney's Office and the Pasadena Independent School District are partners in the Harris County Stay in School Program during the 2013-2014 school year. School attendance is a high priority of my office and the school district. The program is designed to increase school attendance, which is something all concerned parents strive for to help their child succeed in school and in life.

This letter is to inform you of the law and district policies regarding failure to attend school. It is important that all parents and guardians be aware of the consequences of unexcused absences from school. Under Texas law, unexcused absences are a criminal offense, and both parents and students can be charged. If your child has three unexcused absences from school, a warning letter will be sent to you and one will be hand-delivered to your child in school. You will be summoned immediately to a conference at the school to discuss and solve this problem before criminal charges are filed.

If, however, your child continues to incur additional unexcused absences, the school will file a case in a Justice of the Peace court, where you and your child must appear in response to the charges. Further, a more comprehensive program will be implemented under which your child must not miss additional school days and must submit to a social service evaluation and, where applicable, follow up on social service referrals. If your child deviates from the terms of the program, then additional conditions will be added, such as attendance at a truancy camp and completion of community service hours. Non-compliance will ultimately lead to charges being filed against your child in a Harris County Juvenile District Court. Each parent is also subject to very large fines.

I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to explain to your child the implications of this letter and to instill in them the vital importance of an education.

  
Belinda Hill