



FRISCO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 14, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Dedicating a full time Deputy Constable to Truancy in Pct 3 will greatly benefit not only Frisco ISD but the county overall; saving time and money for both.

Four years ago I moved to Collin County and took the position of Truancy Prevention Facilitator for Frisco ISD. I previously worked as the Truant Officer for Wichita Falls ISD in Wichita County for 9 years. Wichita County had a fulltime Deputy Constable dedicated to Truancy and it was one of the primary reasons the Truancy Intervention Program was so successful in that county. A Deputy Constable readily available to the school district made sure immediate action was taken. Many students with truancy issues have other serious factors that contribute to their truancy (runaway, drugs, homelessness, and unsafe living conditions) and need immediate intervention.

With a fulltime Deputy Constable dedicated to Truancy, the court appearance subpoenas may be served in a more timely manner, writs of attachment could be executed much quicker and transportation of students to specified facilities can be accommodated by the Truancy Constable.

Having direct communication with one specific Deputy Constable assists the Truant Officers greatly. Both may work together to find students, and meet the needs of the court. I experienced firsthand the truancy officer and Deputy developing a rapport with the families and students allowing better communication and trust.

Frisco ISD resides in two counties. This causes difficulty in having subpoenas served timely. All subpoenas for JP Pct 3 could be served by the dedicated Deputy cutting out miscommunications and loss of time. Students may be out of school for days and will show up randomly to class one day. Should there be a writ of attachment for the student or should the student need to be served a subpoena, the Truancy Officer would be able to contact the Deputy immediately and coordinate an effective way to have the student served. Under the current procedures, the writ and or summons may be in another Pct and the student would not be served; losing valuable time.

From my personal experience, a dedicated Deputy Constable for Truancy Intervention will save time and money while getting students back into the classroom.

Regards,

Jody Lyons

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