

By: Allen

H.B. No. 626

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to an educational involvement agreement setting forth the
3 respective responsibilities of students, parents, teachers, and
4 principals in public schools.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 26, Education Code, is amended by adding
7 Section 26.014 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 26.014. EDUCATIONAL INVOLVEMENT AGREEMENT. (a) The
9 agency shall adopt an educational involvement agreement form for
10 use by school districts to be signed by a student, the student's
11 parent, each of the student's teachers, and the principal of the
12 student's school. The agreement must state the respective
13 responsibilities of the student, parent, teacher, and principal. A
14 school district shall provide the agreement to each individual who
15 is required to sign the agreement not later than the 14th day after
16 the first day of instruction for a school year or the 14th day after
17 the date a student enrolls in the school, as applicable. A school
18 district must provide a parent with a reasonable opportunity to
19 sign the agreement.

20 (b) The educational involvement agreement must include
21 descriptions of:

22 (1) the parent's responsibilities regarding the
23 student's education, which may include:

24 (A) reading to the student, if appropriate for

1 the student's grade or reading level;

2 (B) reviewing and checking the student's
3 homework; and

4 (C) contributing at least five hours of the
5 parent's time to the school each school year by:

6 (i) attending school-related activities;

7 (ii) attending parent-teacher association
8 meetings;

9 (iii) attending parent-teacher conferences;

10 (iv) volunteering at the school; or

11 (v) chaperoning school-sponsored events;

12 (2) the responsibility of a student to:

13 (A) read each day before or after school, if
14 appropriate for the student's grade or reading level;

15 (B) use school equipment and property in a safe,
16 appropriate manner;

17 (C) follow the instructions of school staff;

18 (D) complete and submit homework in a timely
19 manner; and

20 (E) act in a respectful manner; and

21 (3) the responsibility of each teacher and principal
22 to:

23 (A) provide each student with proper
24 instruction, supervision, and interaction;

25 (B) maximize the educational and social
26 experience of each student;

27 (C) perform professional responsibilities in a

1 manner that is in the best interest of each student; and

2 (D) be available to parents to discuss concerns.

3 (c) A school district may revise the educational
4 involvement agreement form adopted by the agency to include
5 information in addition to the information required under this
6 section.

7 (d) The educational involvement agreement provided to a
8 student's parent may be accompanied by information regarding:

9 (1) the manner in which a parent may contact the
10 student's teacher or principal;

11 (2) the curriculum for each course in which the
12 student is enrolled or standards for the student's grade level,
13 including a calendar that indicates the dates that assessment
14 instruments will be administered under Subchapter B, Chapter 39,
15 and the due dates of significant projects, if those dates are known
16 at the time the information is provided to the parent;

17 (3) homework and grading policies;

18 (4) directions for locating resource material for the
19 courses in which the student is enrolled or for the student's grade
20 level, as applicable;

21 (5) methods for assisting the student with school work
22 at home;

23 (6) dates of scheduled conferences between teachers or
24 administrators and the parent;

25 (7) details on how reports of the student's progress
26 will be sent to the parent and how a parent may request a progress
27 report;

- 1 (8) classroom rules and policies;
2 (9) dress code;
3 (10) the availability of assistance to a parent of
4 limited English proficiency;
5 (11) information on free and reduced-price meals; and
6 (12) opportunities for parents to become involved in
7 the student's education or volunteer at the school.

8 (e) The commissioner may adopt rules as necessary to
9 implement this section.

10 SECTION 2. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective
11 date of this Act, the Texas Education Agency shall adopt an
12 educational involvement agreement form for use by school districts
13 as required by Section 26.014, Education Code, as added by this Act.

14 (b) Each school district shall use the educational
15 involvement agreement form in the manner required by Section
16 26.014, Education Code, as added by this Act, beginning with the
17 2010-2011 school year.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.