



Executive Director
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer
Matthew "Kyle" Dobbs

FORT BEND COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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JUVENILE BOARD

HON. TONI WALLACE
Juvenile Board Chair
HON. CHRISTOPHER MORALES
HON. TYRA McCOLLUM
HON. JULI MATHEW
HON. TEANA WATSON
HON. DEAN HRBACEK
HON. SURENDRAN PATEL
HON. STEVE ROGERS
HON. MONICA RAWLINS
HON. JANET HEPPARD
HON. TAMEIKA CARTER
HON. CHRISTIAN BECERRA
HON. CHAD BRIDGES
HON. KALI MORGAN
HON. K.P. GEORGE

To: Honorable Commissioners Court

Re: Saved by the Bell Truancy Reduction Program

The Fort Bend County Juvenile Board (Juvenile Board) has been collaborating with Fort Bend County (County) and Fort Bend Independent School District (FBISD) since 2008 to address truancy through the Saved by the Bell Truancy Reduction Program. The goal of the program is to apply proactive casework management strategies, together with meaningful interventions, in order to prevent and address truancy issues and increase attendance.

As provided in the agreement, the County will fund six Juvenile Caseworkers through the Juvenile Probation Department Budget and the Juvenile Board will assign six Juvenile Caseworkers to address relevant issues. In return, FBISD agrees to fund the Juvenile Caseworkers in an amount not to exceed \$327,777.50.

These Juvenile Caseworkers work with Student Attendance Specialists, School Administrator's, Counselors, Social Workers, and Community Resources to address and resolve the social factors behind truancy, provide support, services, and intervention. The Juvenile Caseworkers also act as liaisons to coordinate and provide follow up with all six of the county's Justice of the Peace Courts for students referred civilly for remedial measures.

During the 2023-2024 school year, our Juvenile Caseworkers instituted 7,787 Truancy Intervention Measures including 1,699 home visits. Our Juvenile Caseworkers also provided services to students who were placed on remedial orders through all the Justice Courts in Fort Bend County resulting in improved attendance, increased GPA, and decreased discipline issues.

As you can see, the work of our Juvenile Caseworkers is making a meaningful impact on lives of these students. The collaboration between the Juvenile Board, County, and FBISD is instrumental in preventing and resolving truancy, thereby reducing juvenile delinquency.

Sincerely,

Matthew "Kyle" Dobbs
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer
Fort Bend County Juvenile Probation
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