

RE: STATE OF TEXAS LAWS PERTAINING TO SAFE GUN STORAGE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Houston Independent School District (HISD) is dedicated to a safe learning environment both at school and at home. In 2019, 25 school shootings occurred across our nation, causing serious injuries to 43 people. Eight died as a result of their injuries. In the Houston area, 28 children were killed by firearms. Almost half of the deaths (11) resulted from improper gun storage. HISD recognizes that proper gun storage education and laws are essential to ensuring a gun-free campus. To further our efforts to protect students from firearms, and as a courtesy to our families, HISD is informing parents and guardians of the legal obligations to protect minors from negligent gun storage. Please review the state statute on gun storage laws summarized below:

Texas State Law 46.13 “Making a Firearm Accessible to a Child”

In the state of Texas, a “child” is defined as a person under the age of 17. The statute indicates that a person commits an offense if a child gains access to a readily dischargeable firearm and the person with criminal negligence:

- 1) failed to secure the firearm; or
- 2) left the firearm in a place to which the person knew or should have known the child would gain access.

Respectfully,

Pedro “Pete” Lopez, Jr.
HISD Chief of Police

-----CUT HERE AND RETURN TO YOUR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL-----

SAFE GUN STORAGE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

Please sign below acknowledging receipt of this information.

Student Name
(Please Print)

Parent/Guardian Name
(Please Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date
