Bland Middle School

Date: August 7th, 2025

Dear Guardians, Parents, and Students,

To begin, I want to welcome everyone to the 2025-2026 school year! We are on a roll at BMS and I am excited to be a part of all the great things going on here. You will see a lot of communication come out over the next few weeks as we gear up for the start of school, but I wanted to send one letter to strictly cover Senate Bill 68 and how that will affect us at BMS and how it will look in our school.

First off, for those that are not familiar with Senate Bill 68. Senate Bill 68 was passed earlier this year and, "prohibits students from using or displaying electronic personal communication devices from the beginning until the end of the school day, including, but not limited to, during instructional time, meal times, breaks, time between classes and study halls." The law defines an "electronic personal communications device" as a portable device that is used to initiate, receive, store, or view communication, information, images, or data electronically. Prohibited devices include, but are not limited to, cell phones, smart watches, smart glasses, wireless earbuds/headphones, tablets, and personal laptops.

The main message - NO PERSONAL DEVICES IN THE SCHOOL BUILDING DURING SCHOOL HOURS. Students at Bland Middle School will turn in ALL personal communication devices (if they choose to bring them to school) to their homeroom teacher. The teacher will store the devices (phones, smartwatch, smart glasses, airpods, tablets, etc.) in a plastic container and students will sign them in. At the end of the day, just before dismissal, students will get their personal devices back by signing them out. ALL students must comply as this is now a Missouri Law. Any violations of this policy will be handled in the following manner.

1st Offense	Confiscation of the personal communication device, conference with principal, parent phone call, student will receive the device back at the end of the day.
2nd Offense	Confiscation of the personal communication device, parent phone call to retrieve the device, detention, ISS
3rd Offense	Confiscation of the personal communication device, parent will have to retrieve the device, ISS or 1-180 days OSS

I appreciate everyone's support as we implement these new policies to be compliant with State Law and better our overall education environment.

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