



UNPLUG TO ENGAGE

Cell Phones & Personal Devices

➤ New State Law

House Bill 1481, passed by the 89th Texas Legislature, now requires public schools to prohibit students from using personal electronic communication devices that can send or receive data on school property during the school day, including passing periods and during lunch. The purpose of the law is to promote more focused learning environments and reduce distractions in the classroom.

Prohibited Devices During School Day



Cell Phones



Smartwatches



Fitness Trackers
(with Messaging Capabilities)



Earbuds & Wireless Headphones



Tablets



Personal Computers



Gaming Devices



Pagers & Radios

➤ What Else to Know

- Students need to leave personal communication devices at home or keep devices powered off and stored away (in a backpack, locker, or vehicle, etc.) during the school day.
- Secondary students will be issued a district Chromebook. Elementary students will use a district-issued device during class when needed.
- Exceptions will be made for students with certain medical needs, special education accommodations, or health and safety requirements as outlined by law.

➤ What Parents Can Do

- Explain to your child(ren) why the rule exists.
- Make sure they understand this is a state law, not just a district rule.
- Make arrangements for your student(s) to keep personal devices at home or turned off and properly stored beginning on the first day of school.
- Contact your campus principal if you need to request an exception due to an IEP, 504, or medical circumstances.