



# Everman Independent School District

One Goal... One Purpose... Student Success

July 23, 2025

Dear Everman ISD Family,

I would like to take a moment to update you on House Bill 1481 (HB 1481), a new state law passed by the Texas Legislature that will impact our classrooms starting with the 2025-2026 school year.

HB 1481 requires school districts to adopt policies that prohibit students from using personal wireless communication devices during instructional time. The law defines personal devices as any non-school-issued cell phone, tablet, laptop, smartwatch, or other device capable of sending or receiving data.

Please read Everman ISD Personal Communication/Electronic Device Regulations.

## **EVERMAN ISD**

### **Personal Communication Device Regulations**

***Under these Personal Communication Device Guidelines, “Personal Communication Device” means a telephone, cell phone (including smartphone or flip phone), tablet, smartwatch, radio device, paging device, or any other electronic device capable of telecommunication or digital communication. The intent of these Guidelines is to limit the use of Personal Communication Devices to prevent distractions from learning and the loss of instructional time.***

Students are required to keep their Personal Communication Devices powered off and securely stored out of sight (for example, in their backpacks or personal bags) during the school day (the school day includes breakfast time through the end of the dismissal, i.e. breakfast time, class time, passing period, lunch time, end of school dismissal). Students who fail to comply with these regulations will be subject to disciplinary action.

Campus administrators will communicate regulations and the importance of maintaining an environment free from distractions caused by Personal Communication Devices to staff and students, as well as enforce regulations, monitor for violations, and issue consequences in accordance with these regulations.

If a student uses a Personal Communication Device without authorization during the school day, the Personal Communication Device will be confiscated. A parent or guardian will be required to pick up the confiscated device from an administrator. [See Consequences below]. Any confiscated Personal Communication Device that is not retrieved by a parent or guardian within ninety (90) days will be disposed of in accordance with applicable law. The district is not responsible for damage,



# Everman Independent School District

One Goal... One Purpose... Student Success

lost, or stolen Personal Communication Devices, including but not limited to devices confiscated by administrators following a violation of these regulations. [See [Board Policy FNCE](#)]

In limited circumstances, and as permitted by law, authorized personnel may search a student's Personal Communication Device. [See [Board Policy FNF](#)]

Parents or guardians who need to contact a student during the school day should call the school's main office. Students will be allowed to return urgent calls under staff supervision, if needed.

## EXCEPTIONS

A student shall be authorized to use a personal communication device on school property during the school day only under the following circumstances:

1. to implement an IEP, Section 504 Plan, or a similar program or plan;
2. by a student with a documented need based on a directive from a qualified physician; or
3. to comply with a health or safety requirement imposed by law or as part of the district's or school's safety protocols.

## CONSEQUENCES

The use or access of Personal Communication Devices is prohibited during the school day, unless authorized by school staff in accordance with these Guidelines or applicable law.

Any student who uses or accesses a Personal Communication Device during the school day is in violation of these regulations. Students in violation will be redirected to power off the device and store it as outlined in these regulations. If the student fails to comply, a discipline referral shall be submitted to campus administration. At that time, an administrator will intervene, confiscate the device, and assign disciplinary consequences. All faculty and staff are authorized to confiscate devices. Any confiscated device will be securely stored in a campus administrator's office or a campus administrative assistant's office and must be retrieved by a parent.

Campus administrators will make determinations regarding disciplinary consequences. Possible disciplinary consequences for students who violate these regulations include confiscation of the device, parent contact and conference, before/after school/Saturday detention, in-school suspension, out of school, or DAEP.



## Everman Independent School District

One Goal... One Purpose... Student Success

I want to thank you in advance for your partnership and support as we navigate this change together. Our focus remains on creating safe, supportive, distraction-free, and engaging classrooms where every student can thrive.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Felicia Donaldson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
*One Goal... One Purpose... Student Success!*