



BISD Student Code of Conduct & Student Handbook Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. What are the changes in the Student Code of Conduct and Student Handbook for the 2024-2025 school year?

We have one local change to the Student Code of Conduct. The dress code was adjusted to expand the requirement that students wear identification badges. Previously, BISD has required high school students to wear student identification badges. For 2024-2025, we are expanding this requirement to include middle school students as well. For the Student Handbook, language was added to provide additional clarity on student expectations for possessing and using cellular devices on campus.

2. What's the rationale for adding student identification badges for middle school students?

Wearing ID badges helps us to know who is on our campuses, and who is authorized to be on our campuses. Student identification badges provide an important layer of security and safety on our campuses. Having students wear their identification badges is helpful to our guest teachers and other itinerant staff. Student identification badges encourage students to learn the names of their classmates and allows staff to quickly call students by name, fostering a sense of connection and belonging. Student identification badges are a useful community resource, as these are often the only form of photo identification our students may have.

3. What information is included on the student identification badge?

The student's name, photo, and grade level is on the badge. The badge also includes the school year, and the school name.

4. What if my student doesn't have a current picture for the identification badge?

Each campus will have a protocol to ensure all students have a photo ID.

5. When will my student get their student identification badge?

Students in grades 7-12 will receive their student identification badges at the start of the school year. Students in grade 6 will receive their identification badge in the early Fall, after student pictures have been taken.

6. What do students do if they lose or forget their identification badge?

Each campus will have a protocol for handling lost or stolen ID badges.

7. Will student bus-riders be required to wear their ID badges on the bus?

Yes, student bus-riders will be required to wear their ID badge on the bus.

8. What will happen if a student refuses to wear their ID badge?

While this is not intended to be punitive, the situation will be addressed if a student consistently does not wear their ID badge. For secondary students, wearing a student identification badge is a dress code requirement.

9. What kind of lanyard will be provided for the student ID badge?

The district will provide an initial break-away lanyard for all student IDs. If a student loses their lanyard, they may purchase a replacement from the campus or from an outside vendor.

10. Will the district be able to track my child if they wear a student ID badge?

No. There is no tracking device within the student ID badges. They do have a barcode that may be used for cafeteria or library purposes, but this feature is not required and will only be used in campuses that have had such procedures in place previously.

11. Is my student allowed to bring their cell phone to school?

Yes. We know that cellular devices are an important communication tool for parents to stay in contact with their students during the day. Students can possess personal cellular devices at school.

12. When is my student allowed to use their cell phone?

The following expectations apply to students:

- Elementary School Students: Elementary school students are permitted to bring cellular or personal telecommunications devices to school for safety purposes. However, students are not permitted to use these devices during the school day, and these devices must remain off during the school day. Students may use the classroom phone with the permission of the teacher, or request to use the office phone if they need to contact their parent/guardian. Parents/Guardians looking to reach their student during the school day may contact the classroom teacher or the front office.
- Middle School Students: Middle school students are permitted to bring cellular or personal telecommunications devices to school for safety purposes. However, these devices must remain off during the instructional day, including during all testing, unless they are being used for approved instructional purposes. Student devices must also remain off during the lunch period. Parents/Guardians seeking to reach their student during the school day may contact the front office.
- High School Students: High school students are permitted to bring cellular or personal telecommunications devices to school for safety purposes. However, these devices must remain off during the instructional day, including during all testing, unless they are being used for approved instructional purposes. Parents/Guardians seeking to reach their student during the school day may contact the front office.

13. What will happen if my student uses their cell phone at an inappropriate time?

Students will be reminded of the rule, and asked to put their phone away. If a student continues to use their phone after multiple reminders, their phone may be taken up by a teacher, administrator, or staff member. A student's parent will be contacted if the student's phone is taken up.



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14. If my student's phone is taken up, when will it be returned?

If the phone is taken up in class, by the classroom teacher, and it is the student's first infraction, the phone will be returned to the student at the end of the class period. If the phone is taken up by an administrator, or if the student has multiple infractions, the phone will be returned to the student at the end of the student's school day. A student's parent will be contacted if the student's phone is taken up.

15. Will there be a fine to pay to have the student's cellular device returned?

No.

16. If I have additional questions regarding the new changes, who can I contact?

Any campus administrator at your student's campus will be able to answer questions regarding the Student Code of Conduct.