GALENA PARK

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

14705 Woodforest Boulevard Houston, Texas 77015 832-386-1000

www.galenaparkisd.com

July 10, 2025

Dear Galena Park ISD Parents/Guardians,

Starting with the 2025-2026 school year, a new Texas law (HB 1481) requires school districts to limit student use of personal communication devices during the school day. To comply with HB 1481, all student electronic devices will be required to be left at home or powered off and put away while on campus during the instructional day. Students will not be allowed to use personal devices **at any time** during the school day. This policy helps reduce distractions, protect student privacy, and support learning.

What is a Personal Communication Device?

- Cell phones
- Smartwatches
- Tablets
- Pagers or other electronic devices

Galena Park ISD's Policy (Effective August 2025):

- Students are encouraged to leave devices at home
- Devices must be powered off and securely stored away during the school day
- Use is not allowed during class, passing periods, or lunch

Exceptions to the Rule:

- Students with an IEP or 504 Plan that requires device access
- Students with orders from a physician for medical needs
- Students granted permission by a school administrator for safety or legal reasons
- School-issued devices specifically for instruction and learning

When Does This Start?

- Policy goes into effect on the first day of school, August 2025
- Full details will be shared in the *Student Handbook* and at back-to-school events

Violations of HB 1481 and Consequences:

1st: Verbal Warning

2nd: Secure the device in a locking pouch, which the student can have unlocked at the end of the school day

3rd: Detention and/or ISS & secure device in a locking pouch

4th & beyond: Consequences will be issued according to the Student Code of Conduct

Thank you for your support in helping foster a more focused, safe, and respectful learning environment for all students. If you have questions, please contact your child's campus or visit www.galenaparkisd.com.

Sincerely.

John Moore, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools