House Bill 1481 (HB 1481) – Frequently Asked Questions

What is House Bill 1481?

House Bill 1481 is a new state law passed by the Texas Legislature that requires school districts to prohibit students from using personal wireless communication devices during instructional time.

What is considered a personal wireless communication device?

HB 1481 defines personal wireless communication devices as any electronic communication device capable of sending or receiving data that is not provided by the school for instructional purposes. This includes:

- Cell phones
- Text messaging devices
- Laptops
- Tablets
- Smartwatches
- Other similar devices

When does this law go into effect?

HB 1481 takes effect for the 2025-2026 school year. Our district will communicate specific policies and procedures before the start of the school year.

What will happen to student devices during the school day?

The law requires classrooms to have a secure, out-of-sight storage area where personal devices will be placed during instructional time.

Will students be allowed to use personal devices at any time during the day?

HB 1481 applies to instructional time. District policies will outline any exceptions (such as before school, after school, or during lunch) in accordance with the law.

How will the district ensure devices are stored safely?

Each classroom will have a designated secure area for storing personal devices. Our plan will prioritize the security and accountability of student belongings.

Can my child still bring a cell phone or other personal device to school?

Yes, but personal wireless devices must follow district policy and remain stored during instructional time.

How will families be notified of the district's plan?

Our Board of Trustees is currently working to adopt the district's policy to comply with HB 1481. We will share the finalized procedures and expectations with families by (insert date, e.g., July 24, 2025).

Why is this law being implemented?

HB 1481 was created to minimize distractions during instructional time, support student learning, and ensure safe, focused classrooms.

Who can I contact if I have additional questions?

Please reach out to (insert district contact information, e.g., your child's campus administrator or the district office at (phone/email)).

Where can I read HB 1481 for myself?

Visit https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB01481I.pdf to read HB 1482