Substitute Teacher Guidance

HB 1481 & Student Personal Communication Devices

Under HB 1481 and Pearland ISD policy, all student personal communication devices, including cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, earbuds, and gaming devices, must be powered off and stored in backpacks or purses during the school day.

Daily Classroom Announcement:
At the beginning of each class period, state:

"Students must keep their personal communication devices powered off and secured in their backpacks or purses during the school day. If a device is visible, turned on, or accessed, I will need to collect it and turn it into the front office."

You should receive a bubble envelope at the beginning of your day.

If a Student Violates the Policy:

1. **Document the Violation:**
    - Record the student's name, date/time, and brief description of the incident.
2. **Inform the Student:**
    - "Your device is visible/turned on. That's a violation of HB 1481 and district policy. Please place it in the bubble pouch—it will be turned into the office at the end of the day."
3. **Turn in the Device:**
    - Once device is in bubble pouch
        1. Give device with student information to designated teacher in your hall
        2. Or push the call button for someone to come to retrieve the device

Student Exceptions to the Policy:
Students may use personal communication devices if they have:

- A current IEP*
- A Section 504 plan*
- An individualized health plan with documented medical need*

This information should be noted in your substitute folder or plans.
Do not confront or penalize a student using a device under one of these documented exceptions.

Student Non-Compliance or Escalation:
If a student refuses to hand over a device or continues to violate the policy:

- Avoid confrontation.
- Notify campus administration or the front office immediately for support.

End of Day Reminder:

- Return unused bubble envelopes to the front office.