



IOLA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



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Student Self-Storage Policy for Personal Communication Devices *Effective August 13th, 2025*

In accordance with Texas HB 1481, best practices recommended by the Texas School Safety Center, and in support of a safe, focused, and distraction-free learning environment, the following policy regarding student personal communication device use will be enforced:

1. Personal Communication Devices

Personal communication devices are any device that are capable of telecommunication or digital communication and can send or receive messages. These devices include but are not limited to:

- Cell Phones, Smartwatches, Tablets, Headphones, Earbuds, Gaming Consoles, Radios, Pagers, Personal Laptops not Approved by School for Dual Credit Students Only.

2. Student Self-Storage and Possession

- Students are permitted to have a personal communication device during the school day for emergency preparedness and safety purposes. Iola ISD will not collect or store devices daily.
- All personal communication devices must be stored securely by the student (e.g., in a backpack or locker) and are the responsibility of the student at all times.
- The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices.

3. Device Use During School Hours

- Personal communication devices must be powered off during school day (starting first period), including class changes and other non-instructional periods.
- Students may not use personal communication devices for any reason during the school day unless specifically authorized by school administration or for emergency purposes.

4. Violations and Consequences

Failure to comply with this policy will result in disciplinary consequences as outlined in the student code of conduct. This is cumulative and does not reset at the beginning of each six weeks or semester.

- 1st offense – Verbal warning and documentation
- 2nd offense – Device confiscated and returned to student at the end of the day
- 3rd offense – Device confiscated and must be picked up by a parent/guardian, student assigned one day of detention.
- Refusal to turn in your phone to administration can result in ISS or a suspension from school.

5. Exceptions

- Personal communication devices may be allowed in very specific instances and under close direct supervision/direction of an administrator, or for medical purposes. (e.g. dual credit students)
- Exceptions for personal communication devices are allowed for students with a documented safety or health accommodations such as a 504 accommodation or IEP.
- In an emergency, all students will immediately be allowed to use electronic communication devices.