Personal Electronic Communication Devices

8.7.25

Dear Fargo Public Schools Families,

This fall, Fargo Public Schools will implement a policy in compliance with a new state law that prohibits student use of personal electronic communication devices during the school day. That means phones, earbuds, smartwatches, and similar devices must be off, securely stowed away, and inaccessible to students from the first bell to the last. Also, personal computers, tablets and e-readers cannot be used at school.

We know this change will take some adjustment and we need your help to make it successful.

What You Can Do at Home Before August 27:

- Practice phone-free time each day—start small and build up.
- Try a "phone-free dinner" or "device-free outing" and see how your student responds.
- Use a regular alarm clock instead of a phone in the morning.
- Remind your student that they can still contact you during the day through the school office when needed.
- Review the policy with them.

If your student struggles with being separated from their phone, now is the time to work through that together at home as it could present challenges for them at school. Our expectations will be that students are respectful to staff and peers as we implement the policy. By the first day of school on August 27, students should be ready to follow the “Devices Off and Learning On” expectations.

More information on our policy and FAQs about this change are available at: https://www.fargo.k12.nd.us/devices.

We appreciate your help in supporting this change. With families and schools working together, we can help students be focused and ready to learn. I look forward to starting off our 2025-26 school year on August 27.

Sincerely,
Dr. Cory Steiner, Superintendent
Fargo Public Schools