

West Rusk Secondary Communication Device Procedures

In compliance with House Bill 1481 (Effective August, 2025)

Communication Devices must be turned off and stored out of sight during the entire instructional school day. The only exceptions to this law are documented reasons per a student IEP plan (504/SPED), required by a physician's directive, or a need to comply with a specific documented health and safety protocol as guided by a physician.

Summary:

Students are not allowed to use or access personal electronic devices at any time during the school day, including before school, during passing periods, lunch, and dismissal. All devices must remain off and out of sight from the time of arrival until the end of the instructional day.

Communication Devices under this plan include:

- Cell Phones
- Smartwatches
- Earbuds and Headphones
- Tablets and any other form of personal communication device

When devices are on campus they must be stored in one of the following locations:

High School – turned off and stored in a zippered pouch/bag/purse, etc..., backpack, locker, or locked in personal vehicle in student parking lot.

Junior High – turned off and locked in locker

Consequences for Violations

1st offense – Device is confiscated and held in the office until the end of the school day. Parent/Guardian is notified. Student receives a documented warning. Student may retrieve device at the end of the day.

2nd offense – Device is held in the office. Parent/Guardian must pick up the device in person at the end of the school day. (Documented warning)

3rd offense – Device is held in the office. Parent/Guardian must pick up the device in person at the end of the school day. (Documented warning). Additionally, other student discipline can be administered (lunch detention, ISS, parent conference, student may be required to turn device in to office at beginning of each day, etc...)

- If additional offenses occur and the violations become chronic it will be considered persistent misbehavior and may result in out of school suspension and/or DAEP.
- Student refusal to surrender device when directed to do so will be considered defiance of authority / insubordination, and may result in additional disciplinary action.

Student Signature

Parent Signature