

# Zephyr ISD Cell Phone & Device Policy- HB 1481

**Effective: August 13, 2025**

**Device Expectations-** In accordance with Texas House Bill 1481, students **may not possess or use personal communication devices—including cell phones, tablets, and smart watches**— during the instructional day while on any Zephyr ISD campus.

- Cell phones and all devices such as smart watches, ear buds, and tablets must be **powered off** and **stored securely** in a **backpack, locker, or vehicle** at the first bell (7:55 am). They may be turned on at the end of the day (3:35 pm).
- Devices **may not be carried** on a student's person (e.g., in a pocket, worn on the body, or on a wrist).
- Cell phones and all devices such as smart watches, ear buds, and tablets are not allowed to be used in a classroom, cafeteria, common areas, or restrooms.
- Cell phones and all devices such as smart watches, ear buds, and tablets are not to be used during transition times or between classes.
- The use of cell phones or any device capable of capturing images is strictly prohibited in locker rooms or restroom areas while at school or at school-related or school-sponsored events.

Students who violate this policy shall be subject to established disciplinary measures. District employees shall confiscate any cell phones, smart watches, or ear buds visible, heard, or used during the instructional day on school property.

The policy outlines a clear offense and consequence structure to ensure consistent application:

- **1<sup>st</sup> Offense-** Device confiscated; returned to **student** at the end of the school day (3:35 pm).
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Offense-** The **parent/guardian** may pick up from the principal's office at the end of the day. The student will have 2 days of lunch detention.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Offense-** The **parent/guardian** may pick up the confiscated device from the principal's office at the end of the day. The student will have **1** day of ISS.
- **4<sup>th</sup> Offense-** The **parent/guardian** may pick up the confiscated device from the principal's office at the end of the day. The student will have **3** days of ISS.
- **5<sup>th</sup> Offense-** The **parent/guardian** may pick up the confiscated device from the principal's office at the end of the day. The student will have **5** days of ISS.

Confiscated telecommunications devices that are not retrieved by the student or the student's parent will be disposed of after the notice required by law. [See policy FNCE for more information.] In limited circumstances and in accordance with law, a student's personal telecommunications device may be searched by authorized personnel.

Any disciplinary action will be in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. The district is not responsible for damaged, lost, or stolen telecommunications devices.

