

First Read of House Bill 1481 Cell Phone Policy

1. Background:

In June of 2025, the State of Texas signed into law HB 1481 which prohibits students from using personal wireless communication devices during the school day in Texas public schools. This includes all communication devices such as cell phones, smartwatches, pagers, and tablets. There will be exceptions to this rule for medical needs, special education accommodations, adaptive accommodations, and these will be made on an individual basis. This law requires that all public school districts develop and adopt policies addressing these restrictions and disciplinary actions for violations to this new Texas state law.

2. Process:

A committee was formed to work on the development and implementation of this new policy. District personnel reviewed other districts who piloted this program last year, worked with intradistrict leaders to find common language, and vetted the final draft with legal consultants. The first read will be made public then adopted in early August. This information will go out to the public after the first read through communications.

3. Fiscal Impact:

NA.

4. Recommendation:

Item of Information.

5. Required:

NA.