

MANSFIELD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

A Destination District Committed to Excellence.

Mansfield ISD Implements New Cell Phone Guidelines for 2023-24 School Year

At the June 27 Mansfield ISD Board meeting, trustees approved <u>Board Policy FNCE</u> related to student cell phone usage during the school day.

Based on the new policy, Mansfield ISD is implementing new guidelines for the 2023 - 24 school year limiting student use of cell phones and other personal electronic devices in our schools. The new guidelines are designed to limit distractions and learning disruptions in the classroom and include all devices used to communicate electronically including, but not limited to, cell phones, smart watches, and ear pods/headphones.

"As a board, we believe the new guidelines will limit distractions and disruptions to the learning process, which can frequently be caused by cell phone usage," said Mansfield ISD Board President Courtney Lackey Wilson. "We want to empower our employees by outlining clear consequences for infractions."

All students in grades K-6 will be required to keep their devices turned off and stored away during the school day except for before and after school.

All students in grades 7-12 will be required to keep their devices turned off and stored away during class periods. Campus principals will also have the discretion to allow cell phone use during passing periods and lunch.

If a student uses a cell phone without authorization during the school day, the device will be confiscated. A parent, guardian, or student may pick up the confiscated device from the office for a fee of \$15.

Campus administrators will state expectations at the beginning of the year, and administrators will monitor cell phone violations. For more information including a graduated list of consequences, view the new guidelines on the district website: Personal Electronic Communications Guidelines.

Please review the new guidelines and talk to your students prior to the first day of school.

Mansfield ISD is a 1:1 district for student learning devices. The district provides devices for students grades PreK – 12 to be used for educational purposes while enrolled in our district. Device distribution for grades 5-12 for the 2023-24 school year is underway; to learn more about your student's device pickup schedule please visit: <u>District Issued Devices</u>.