



Important Update for the 2025-2026 School Year

MABANK ISD CELL PHONE PROCEDURES

HB 1481: CELL PHONE-FREE



A new state law, House Bill 1481, goes into effect starting with the 2025-2026 school year and requires school districts to significantly limit student use of personal communication devices during the school day. In accordance with this law, all student personal electronic devices must be left at home or turned off and put away while on campus during instructional hours.

This legislation is intended to reduce classroom distractions, protect student privacy, and encourage a stronger focus on learning. Mabank ISD will be following clear and consistent guidelines to support a focused, distraction-free environment for all students.

Thank you for your partnership in supporting a focused and engaging learning environment for our students!



Off and Away for the Day

Students must keep cell phones and other personal electronic devices turned off and in their backpacks or bags from the time they enter their first class of the school day to the time they exit their final class of the school day.

This includes but is not limited to:

- Cell Phones
- Smartwatches
- Tablets
- Earbuds
- Pagers or other electronic devices



Exceptions to the Rule

- A student has an IEP or 504 Plan that requires device access
- A physician's order is on file for a medical need
- A school administrator grants permission for safety or legal reasons
- It is a school-issued device specifically for instruction/learning



School Devices for Learning

For instructional purposes, only school-issued electronic devices will be allowed.



Start Date of the Device Restrictions

The policy begins on the first day of the 2025-2026 school year, Wednesday, August 13, 2025.

PLEASE NOTE: Violations of the Personal Communication Device Prohibition will result in increased confiscation times. Extensive abuse of the policy may lead to a DAEP placement.