

Dear Students and Families,

As we welcome students back to school on August 16, our top priority continues to be providing a safe, welcoming environment that sets up students for maximum academic growth and success. To help with this, we want to share a reminder about Keller ISD's practices regarding student technology to ensure that students and families are familiar with these expectations before the first day of school.

Student cell phones, smart watches, AirPods, Bluetooth headphones, etc. are not allowed to be in use during instructional hours without teacher permission. Students may not use their phones during classes, in restrooms, or in locker rooms. All students have access to Surface Go devices and other technologies for email and classwork.

Students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades will have the opportunity to have access to phones and electronics in the cafeteria, when behaving appropriately and helping us to keep the cafeteria clean, as determined by campus administration. Students will be asked to place all personal electronics in their backpacks as soon as they enter the building and will be able to take them out as soon as they exit the building. If there is a medical reason to use a cell phone, that may also be allowed per a 504, IEP, or health plan, with prior approval.

We understand that parents may need the ability to contact their child during the school day, so please do not hesitate to contact the office anytime and we can relay messages to students, as needed.

Some of the challenges schools encounter with hundreds of students using cell phones on campus include:

- Students taking pictures of peers without permission.
- Students frequently taking out phones during classes and in locker rooms.
- Students posting pictures and videos to social media during the school day.
- Students Air-Dropping unwanted pictures or videos to others.
- Cyber bullying and/or gossip through texts, chats, or social media.

Consequences for not following the approved campus policy related to cell phones and other electronic devices will be as follows:

- The first time the device is confiscated, the student will be able to pick up the device from the classroom teacher at the end of the class period.
- The second time the device is confiscated, parents will be notified, and students will be allowed to pick up the devices from the campus office at the end of the day.
- Repeat offenses will require parents to pick up the device. Additionally, students will be subject to consequences aligned with the Keller ISD Student Code of Conduct and may be subject to a \$15 fine per occurrence.

We appreciate your support as we create a safe educational environment that minimizes distractions for our students.

