



July 16, 2025

Dear Stratford Families,

As part of our ongoing commitment to creating a positive learning environment, we have updated our [Cell Phone/Electronic Devices Policy](#), which was approved by the Board of Education in June. This policy establishes clear guidelines for student use of cell phones, smartwatches, earbuds, headphones, and other wireless devices at school.

The complete policy is linked above for your reference. Below you'll find a summary of the key points that affect your student. We encourage you to review this information with your child to ensure they understand the expectations.

We also have a [short video here](#) which summarizes the new policy nicely.

If you prefer audio, [this podcast](#) has also been created which discusses all aspects of the new policy.

## **What Students Need to Know**

### **Elementary & Middle School Students**

- **All devices must be turned OFF and stored away** during the entire school day
- Devices cannot be carried on your person - must be in your backpack or locker
- **No using, looking at, or showing devices** during school hours

### **High School Students**

- **During class time:** All devices must be turned OFF and placed in secure storage containers
- **Between classes and during lunch:** You may use your devices appropriately
- **Remember:** Devices must be stored even if you leave class temporarily (bathroom, etc.)

## **Important Rules for ALL Students**

### **What's NOT Allowed**

- Taking photos or videos anywhere on school property
- Using devices to cheat or help others cheat
- Sharing inappropriate content
- Using devices in bathrooms or locker rooms



- Any use that disrupts class or bothers others

## Emergency Situations

- For students: If you need to contact home, go to the main office
- For adults: If you need to get in touch with your child, call the school and they will get the message to your child, or have your child paged to the office to talk with you.

## Special Circumstances

Your student may be allowed to use devices during class time with prior written approval for:

- Educational activities approved by the teacher
- Medical needs or IEP/504 accommodations
- Health or safety reasons
- School trips (at principal's discretion)

**Please note:** The district strongly encourages students to leave all electronic devices at home. If students choose to bring these items to school, they do so at their own risk, and the school is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

## Questions?

If you have questions about this policy, please contact your school's main office.

Thank you for working with us to maintain a focused learning environment for all students.

**Heather Borges**  
**Acting Superintendent**  
**Stratford Public Schools**