CHICO
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Cell Phone/ Telecommunication Device Policy

Continuing with the 2026-2027 school year, Chico ISD will continue with the implementation plan regarding Texas law—House Bill 1481. This legislation imposes restrictions on the use of personal communication devices by students during the school day.

Again this school year, students will be expected to keep personal devices silenced, out of sight, and stored away (such as in a backpack, locker (CMS), or purse) from the time they arrive on campus until dismissal. This includes before school, during passing periods, and at lunch.

Devices covered by this law include:

- Smartphones, Flip phones
- Smartwatches
- Tablets, Pagers, radios, or any other communication-capable devices

Exceptions may be made due to medical necessity, special education, or 504 accommodations, with administrative approval.

Emergency communication- We understand that many families rely on direct contact with their children during the day. In the event of an emergency, please contact the front office, and we can relay a message to your child. Students will also be permitted to use the phone in the office for emergency purposes.

This update is part of a statewide initiative to reduce distractions and create an environment focused on learning. We appreciate your partnership as we work together to support student success.

Consequences for Unauthorised Use:

1st Offense- Device turned into the campus principal for the remainder of the school day and parent called.

2nd Offense- Device turned into the campus principal for the remainder of the school day, 3 days lunch detention, and parent called.

3rd and Subsequent Offenses- Device turned into the campus principal for the remainder of the school day, 1 day ISS, and parent called.