

## **\*CELL PHONE RULES FOR JUNIOR HIGH\***

August 9, 2023

Dear Haskell CISD Families,

I hope that you have enjoyed the summer break! Our goal continues to be to provide each of our students with opportunities to learn and grow in an optimal, academic-focused environment. To do this, we need to ensure we are working together to make safety a priority and limit as many distractions as possible.

We will be kicking off the 2023-2024 school year with a new set of expectations regarding the use of **cell phones** at school. In an effort to maintain an optimal learning environment for all of our students and to ensure safety and limit distractions, we are asking for your support as we decrease the use of cell phones at Haskell Junior High. The following rules will be in place at Haskell Junior High:

- **Cell phones must be turned off** and put away, **out of sight**, during the school day.
- **Cell phones must remain in lockers or backpacks from the beginning of first period for sixth graders and from the beginning of second period for seventh and eighth graders.**
- **Students are prohibited from using their cell phones** at lunch, in restrooms, and while transitioning in the hallways. **This includes devices such as earbuds and watches that can act as telecommunications or listening/viewing devices.** If a student is found to be using other types of devices to communicate, listen to media, or take photos or videos, the device will be treated in the same manner as a cell phone.

In the event that a student does not comply with these expectations, the following will apply:

- **First Offense:** The cell phone/device will be taken to the school office. The phone/device will be returned only to the parent or guardian at the end of the school day.
- **Second Offense:** The cell phone/device will be taken to the school office. The phone/device will be given only to the parent or guardian, and three days of lunch detention will be assigned to the student. In lieu of the three

days of lunch detention, the phone/device may be left in the office for three days, then given to the parent.

Failure to comply with these guidelines after the second offense ***will result in additional consequences including In-school Suspension (ISS)*** in accordance with the Student Handbook.

We are providing this communication before school starts so that our families and young people have time to plan. The cell phone rules begin on August 16, the first day of school. I encourage you to discuss these new guidelines with your junior high student.

We know that situations arise where you or your child need to communicate with each other during the school day. In the event that your child must call home, a telephone will be available in Mrs. New's office. Health concerns can be addressed using the telephone in the nurse's office. If you need to contact your child during the school day, please call the office and we will relay the message to your child.

I want to thank you in advance for your partnership with our school and your continued support as we work to provide a safe and productive learning environment for your child.

Respectfully,

Barry McBroom, Principal