



# SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## Board of Education

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The Smyrna School District Board of Education (Board) would like to inform our students, parents, staff, and community about an upcoming change happening for the 2024-2025 school year. Beginning September 3, 2024, student cell phones and other personal electronic devices will be placed in a designated area during the instructional portions of their day.

In consultation with District administrators, educators, staff, and various studies, the Board believes that removing cell phones from the instructional portions of a student's day is in everyone's best interest. Personal electronic device use will be available to students outside of instructional time. Being a one-to-one district means that every kindergarten through twelfth grade student receives a device for instructional use inside and outside of school. As such, cell phones and other personal electronic devices are not needed for instructional purposes.

The Board understands this will be viewed as a major change within the District, and as such, we will evaluate how it works throughout the school year. Data collected, as well as feedback given, will be taken into consideration if policy adjustments are needed. Your support, both the instructional staff and parents/guardians, is paramount to make this a successful transition. The Board asks that instructional staff lead by example and refrain from cell phone usage during class time. Parents and guardians, we need your support in helping your child/children understand that being without their phone for a little over an hour at a time has benefits to the learning environment and their overall academic success. Data also shows that limiting cell phone use can have positive benefits on student behavior, student mental health, and overall school safety.

The Board thanks you for your help and consideration as we make this transition. We look forward to continuing to work together to provide our students with the best educational experience possible.

The Smyrna School District does not discriminate in employment, educational programs, services or activities based on race, color, marital status, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or any other protected category or status in accordance with state and federal laws. Inquiries should be directed to the District Superintendent.