

Hello, Farwell Community!

We wanted to let you know about an important school policy change taking place beginning this upcoming school year. Farwell K-8 campuses will be cell phone and smartwatch free during the school day. At the beginning of each day, students will place their device(s) in a ziploc bag labelled with the student's name. The devices will then be safely secured and returned at the end of the school day.

As technology forward schools, Farwell Elementary and Farwell Junior High want to help to teach and promote appropriate digital citizenship. This decision was made after careful consideration and we believe having a consistent policy in regards to cell phones and smartwatches will help students stay more present and engaged in their learning. Studies show that it can take the brain up to ten minutes to re-engage after responding to cell-phone distraction. Our intent is to support students in their academic success, removing a major distraction, and promoting face to face social interaction and connection.

If a student needs to be contacted during the school day, each campus has a secretary to take messages and if a student must contact a parent a phone is available in the office. We appreciate your support and look forward to an outstanding 2019-2020 school year.

Farwell ISD

## Consequences

1st - warning

2nd - student may pick up at the end of the day- parent contacted

3rd - parent must pick up at the end of the day

4th - parent and fine