

Dear Henderson Middle School Families,

I hope you are enjoying a safe, restful summer and looking forward to the school year ahead.

I am writing to inform you of an important change that will take effect at the start of the 2025–2026 school year. In compliance with House Bill 340, recently passed to promote focused and distraction-free learning environments across all public schools, Henderson Middle School will implement new guidelines limiting student access to personal electronic devices during the school day.

Beginning August 2025, students will not be permitted to use or access personal electronic devices—such as phones, smartwatches, tablets, and similar technology—from the time they enter the building until the end of the school day. This includes during class time, transitions, and lunch.

This change is rooted in a growing body of research and feedback from educators and families indicating that reducing device use in schools can significantly improve academic focus, reduce social distractions, and support student well-being. We believe this shift will help create a more positive and productive learning environment for all students.

We recognize that electronic devices are an important part of daily life, and some students rely on them for health or learning needs. Students with approved accommodations in an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or medical plan will continue to have access as needed.

In the coming weeks, we will share additional information about how this new statewide requirement will be carried out at Henderson Middle, including details on device storage and procedures for emergency communication.

Thank you for your partnership and support as we work together to provide an environment where every student can thrive academically and socially. We look forward to welcoming you at open house and beginning a strong new year.

Warm regards, **Dr. Suzan Harris** Principal, Henderson Middle School

Dr. Suzan Harris,, Principal ~ Bill Glass,, Assistant Principal ~ Kendra Jenkins,, Assistant Principal Scott Robinson, Assistant Principal ~