

PHS Important Update: New Wireless Device Policy








Effective 2025–2026 School Year

What's Changing?

The [**FOCUS Act** \(Freeing Our Classrooms of Unnecessary Screens for Safety\)](#), passed by the Alabama Legislature, goes into effect at Prattville High School on the first day of school (August 7th, 2025). This new law **prohibits** the use of wireless communication devices during the school day.

Devices That Are Not Allowed During School Hours

These are considered **wireless communication devices**:

-  Smartphones
-  Smartwatches
-  AirPods / Wireless Earbuds
-  Tablets & Laptops
-  Gaming Devices
-  Pagers
-  Any device that can call, text, or access the internet

[Click this link for the ACS Wireless Communication Device Policy](#)

When Are Devices Allowed?

- ✓ On the **bus to and from school**
- ✓ Outside the **school building** at the **bus or car rider line**


When Are Devices Not Allowed?


✗ **No devices are allowed** once students **enter the building for the instructional day**; they **cannot be used again** until students **exit the building after the dismissal bell**.

Storage Requirements

All devices must be:

 **Powered OFF**

 **Stored off-person** in a bookbag or lunchbox, purse, or extracurricular bag, or vehicle


 **Not allowed** in pockets or jackets — **all devices must be kept off-person.**

What Happens if a Student Breaks the Rule?


1st Offense

- Grades 7–12:  3 Days In-School Suspension (ISS)



2nd Offense

- Grades 7–12:  5 Days ISS

3rd Offense

- Grades 7–12:  5 Days in Second Chance


Exceptions to the Policy


- A Chromebook is used for educational or learning purposes under the supervision of school personnel inside a classroom
-  Listed in a student's IEP, 504 Plan, or Individualized Health Plan
-  Used during a real emergency threatening safety

Join the Conversation

Superintendent, Mr. Lyman Woodfin, will host a livestream to explain Code of Conduct updates and the district's response to the FOCUS Act.

 **Date:** July 17, 2025

 **Time:** 2:00 p.m.

 Watch live or later on the Autauga County Schools [YouTube channel](#)

 Have questions? Submit them now using the district [feedback survey](#).

Need More Information?

Please contact [Rebecca Thomas, Communications Coordinator](#), for help or clarification.