Important Information in regards to Communication Devices and Standardized Testing

September 29, 2009

Dear Parents of Third and Fifth Grade Students,

Next week your child will participate in the ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills) from Tuesday, October 6 through Thursday, October 8. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of Fort Bend Independent School District's policy in regards to cell phones and standardized testing. If your child has a cell phone, please review and discuss the following policy with them.

The policy is as follows:

During any state testing administration, if a student is found with a telecommunications device (i.e. cell phone, PDA, pager, etc.) on their person at the time of testing, the device will be immediately confiscated. The student's answer sheet/test will be marked "Other". The student will not receive credit for the test being taken and will not receive a test score.

Each day prior to the beginning of the testing session, the test administrator will have all students place all personal items (back packs, purses, cell phones, PDA, etc.) in their lockers or at the front of the testing room. Then, the students will be read the following statement:

> "All telecommunications devices (such as cell phones, pagers, PDA's) should either be in your locker or at the front of the testing room (turned off and out of sight). If you are found with one at any time you are in the testing room (while you are actively testing or have turned in your test and are waiting to be dismissed from the testing room) it will be immediately confiscated. Your test will be marked "Other", which means that it will not be scored and you will miss the opportunity to take and pass this test."

If your device is confiscated, it will be turned over to the appropriate administrator and there will be a $15.00 fee to get it back.

Sincerely,

Charmaine Hobin
Principal