

Cell Phone/Electronic Device - Policy & Contract

Dear Students,

It is important that we discuss the cell phone policy/electronic device and appropriate use of cell phones in the building. The use of cell phones during the school day is a privilege and one that I want you to have. It is important that you follow the rules in order to keep this privilege.

You may use your cell phone/electronic device only during “non-instructional” times. What does this mean? It means that phones may be used before school, after school, during lunch and during passing times. You may make and receive phone calls and text messages during this time. However, once class begins, your phones must be turned completely off—do not put them on “silent” or “vibrate”. If they are in this mode and go off during class time, your phone will be confiscated and brought to the office.

Additionally, you are not to use the camera or video feature on your phone at any time.

Some of you may wonder, “What if I get a hall pass to go to my locker, the library or someplace else? Can I turn my phone on?” No, you may not because it is still “instructional time.” This means that you may not have your phone on during assemblies either, because you are supposed to be paying attention to what is going on at the assembly.

Cell phones/electronic devices are to remain off in the bathroom and locker rooms even if it is before or after school, passing time or during lunch. No exceptions. First, it is not sanitary to have your phone out and in use in the bathroom. Second, because so many phones have cameras and video capabilities, it is against District Policy. And, for your own safety and peace of mind, we do not want there to even be a question as to whether or not your phone is being used to video or take pictures of other students. I want to repeat myself here—cell phones/electronic devices are to remain OFF at ALL TIMES when in the locker rooms or bathrooms.

If you are ill and want to call home, you must come to the office to make that call. Do not go to the bathroom to make the call using your cell phone. It is important that we know you are not feeling well and that we know where you are when your parents come to get you. This is a safety precaution.

If you allow someone to borrow your phone and he or she misuses the phone, it is possible for you to lose your phone privileges as well. So, if a friend asks to borrow your phone during instructional time or uses it in a locker room or bathroom, you may be held accountable as well.

If your cell phone is confiscated and brought to the office, it may require that your parents come and pick it up. Usually, after the first offense, you and I will have a conversation and I will return your phone. However, if you violate the policy about usage in a bathroom or locker room, it is possible you will forfeit the privilege to have your cell phone at school for the remainder of the year.

Finally, we are not responsible for lost or stolen items. It is your responsibility to secure your valuables, including your cell phones/electronic device, at all times.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to ask me.

Mrs. Griffith

****This information will be given in contract form on the first day of school.***