

## Cell Phone and Other Devices Possession and Use Policy

Students in grades pre-K through 3 will not be permitted to carry cell phones.

### Grades 4-7

The school division recognizes that in today's society, students spend a great deal of time at after-school activities and other activities. To that end, the school division has implemented a cell phone possession and use policy for older elementary children that will provide parents and students an opportunity to communicate their plans and schedule.

Students in grades 4-7 will be permitted to possess a cell phone only with the permission of the parent/guardian. The principal has the reasonable discretion to approve or disapprove the possession of the cell phone by a student. Students' cell phones must remain off during the school day and on the school bus unless permission is given to use the phone by school staff. Please note that possession of a cell phone is a privilege. If a student possesses a cell phone in school or on a bus, they must follow these conditions:

- Cell phones must remain OFF during the school day and OFF on the school bus, unless otherwise permitted by school staff.
- Students may make cell phone calls after school, but not on the school bus unless approved by school staff.
- Students may only make phone calls using a cell phone during the school day with the permission of and in the presence of school staff.
- A student shall not use a cell phone camera, access the Internet through the cell phone, or email/text message/communication apps through the cell phone without permission from a staff member.
- Inappropriate or vulgar pictures or text messages shall not be permitted at any time while the cell phone is on school property.
- The student is solely responsible for his/her cell phone. The school and its staff are not liable for student's cell phones.
- Confiscated phones may be searched.

The school division strongly encourages parents/guardians to discuss their expectations as well as the rules for appropriate possession and use of cell phones.

### Consequences

Violation of the Rules Governing-Cell Phone Use:

First Offense: Warning by teacher; item turned into office, student may pick up at end of day

Second Offense: Item seized and turned over to parent

Third Offense: Item seized and turned over to parent; one day in-school suspension

Possession of inappropriate or vulgar pictures or text messages on a cell phone: The cell phone will be confiscated, out-school suspension with a recommendation for long-term suspension. The phone will be turned over to legal authorities. Cell phone privileges will be permanently revoked.

### Grades 8-12

Students may use cell phones before school, during lunch, and after school hours or at school functions/activities after the school day as long as its use does not disrupt activity. During the school day, devices may be used as directed by school staff. If devices are used in school when not appropriate, then staff may confiscate said device and disciplinary action will be taken.

### Consequences

Violation of the Rules Governing-Cell Phone Use:

First Offense: Warning by teacher; item turned into office, student may pick up at end of day

Second Offense: Item seized and turned over to parent

Third Offense: Item seized and turned over to parent; one day in-school suspension

Possession of inappropriate or vulgar pictures or text messages on a cell phone: The cell phone will be confiscated, out-school suspension with a recommendation for long-term suspension. The phone will be turned over to legal authorities.

Revised: March 8, 2018