

**Cell Phone and Other Devices Possession and Use Policy (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 schedules. Students in grades pre-K through 3 will not be permitted to carry cell phones. Students in grades 4-7 will be permitted to possess a cell phone only with the permission of the parent. The principal has the reasonable discretion to approve or disapprove the possession of the cell phone by a student. If the parent desires to permit his/her child to have a phone at school, a permission form will be completed, signed, and returned to the principal's office prior to the child possessing the cell phone on school property. To request this form, please contact the school. 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. Cell phone rules and etiquette are printed on the permission form. Please note that possession of a cell phone is a privilege. The possession of a pager, radio, MP3 player, CD player, DVD player, headphones, electronic game, or laser beam pointer is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action

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 Permitted Cell Phone Possession

1<sup>st</sup> Time: Permission revoked to possess cell phone for up to six weeks.

2<sup>nd</sup> Time: Permission is revoked for up to one school year

### Possession of a cell phone without permission:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Time: Cell phone will be taken from the student and only returned to parent (in which the parent must come to school and retrieve it) with a 1-3 demerits. Confiscated phones may be searched.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Time: Cell phone taken from student and only returned to the parent (in which the parent must come to school and retrieve it) with 1-3 days of in-school suspension. Confiscated phones may be searched.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Time: Cell phone taken from student and only returned to the parent (in which the parent must come to school and retrieve it) with 1-3 days of out-of-school suspension. Confiscated phones may be searched.

### 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.

The student is solely responsible for his/her cell phone. The school and its staff are not liable for student cell phones.

HIGH SCHOOL:

**Communication and Entertainment Devices**

The possession of a pager, radio, MP3 player, CD player, DVD player, headphones, electronic game, or laser beam pointer is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action. Students may use cell phones after school hours or at school functions/activities after the school day as long as its use does not disrupt the activity. During the school day, cell phones are to be turned off and left in student lockers or vehicles and may not be displayed or used. If devices are visible or are used on school grounds during the school day, then staff may confiscate said device and disciplinary action will be taken.

<b>First Offense</b>	<b>Item seized and turned over to parent/guardian</b>
<b>Second Offense</b>	<b>Item seized and turned over to parent; one day out-of-school suspension</b>
<b>Third Offense</b>	<b>Item seized and turned over to parent; three days out-of-school suspension</b>