

# DECA High Cell Phone Policy

## 2022-2023

**Rationale:** Cellular phones and headphones have increasingly become a distraction in schools. Teacher observations, student reflections, and exhaustive educational research have shown that phones and constant access to the internet is negatively impacting student's mental and emotional well-being. We continue to stay focused on preparing students to be college-ready. This includes being a responsible user of technology, especially during class. The new cell phone policy will be implemented at DECA High in order to help students focus on classwork and learn to be responsible users of their own devices. Staff, students, and families all must work together to reduce phone use in class to help students engage with rigorous content, reduce stress levels, and improve overall well-being to prepare for college and beyond.

**Note:** This policy refers to a "personal device" as a cellular phone, headphones, or a watch connected to a phone. Students will be issued a pair of headphones that are non-bluetooth compatible at the start of the school year to use with their Chromebook.

### Cell Phone Policy

Students receive a reminder on the announcements and after lunch every day to put their devices away for the day. If a phone, headphones, or smart watch are seen at any point later in the day (with the exception of lunch), the teacher will request to keep the phone for the remainder of the day. This includes class, Advisory, and class transitions. If a phone is seen or heard or if headphones are being worn, the phone is securely stored until it is returned to the student.

All students are issued a locker at the beginning of the school year in their Advisory. Students are permitted to bring a lock or purchase one from the main office in order to lock belongings away and reduce distractions.

Students **are** permitted to use their devices at lunch. (9th Grade: 11:24-11:59) (10-12th Grade: 12:18-12:53)

The device does not need to be actively in use by the student. It should be away and out of sight.

If a student has a device (phone, headphones, or watch) *visible* at a time outside of lunch:

- **Strike 1:** Staff member collects the device, documents the incident, keeps the device until 3:35pm. The student reports to that staff member after 3:35pm to collect the device. A One Call is sent home that day notifying a parent the student's device was confiscated that day.
- **Strike 2:** Staff member collects the device, documents the confiscation, and takes the device to the main office. The parent must sign a contract and speak with an administrator before releasing the phone back to the student at 3:35pm.
- **Strike 3:** Same process as #2 + the student will serve a Friday Night School. The phone must be turned in daily until the Friday Night School is served.

If a student refuses to turn in their device to the staff member, an office referral will be submitted.

**Dayton Early College Academy, Inc.**  
**Parent/Guardian Personal Device Contract**  
**2022-23 School Year**

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of  
Parent/guardian name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student name

have reviewed the Dayton Early College Academy, Inc. ***Phone Policy regarding headphones, smartwatches and cellular phones*** with my child and mutually agree to abide by the listed expectations.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

*Please return this form to your child's advisor immediately.*