



VICTORY LAKES INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

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Leatrice Sanders – Principal
Benjamin Haney – Assistant Principal
Jennifer Hughes – Assistant Principal
Mary Taylan – Counselor
Michelle Hope – Counselor
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2023-2024 Cell Phone and Electronic Devices Policy

At Victory Lakes Intermediate, our goal is to increase instructional time by removing distractions, keep students emotionally, socially, and physically safe, and create conditions where students have the optimal opportunity to focus on learning and instruction, and develop healthy, sustainable relationships as they transition throughout the school day.

The use of cell phones for students during the instructional day often makes it challenging for students to maintain their focus on learning, instruction, and building healthy relationships. Additionally, social media has added an additional distraction that affects the social-emotional well-being of our students. This distraction also takes away from teachers teaching and from the responsibilities of other staff members who are tasked with managing the distraction of cell phones and other electronic devices, due to the disruption that it causes to the learning environment. Students have been provided with district-issued laptops and programs, which still allows them to use technology to enhance instruction, deepen learning, and engage in real-world experiences, which we fully support and encourage. As a result, we will not allow the use or visibility of cell phones at school during school hours, which is 8:40 a.m. – 4:05 p.m.

We strongly discourage students from bringing AirPods to school. They are expensive and are sometimes misplaced, left behind, or stolen, which is not only upsetting for students, but it also causes a loss of instructional time, as students try to locate them. For instructional purposes, we recommend that students use general earbuds that may be plugged into their laptop device.

As a result, the following cell phone and electronic use procedures are implemented at VLI:

- Students must turn off and put away cell phones at 8:40 a.m., when the first morning bell rings. Cell phones must not be visible from 8:40 a.m. – 4:05 p.m. each day. Cell phones must remain in student backpacks or lockers, and not in the pockets of their clothing throughout the school day. **Unless prior permission is granted by a teacher for instructional purposes, students may not have cell phones or electronic devices (excluding a laptop) visible at all during school hours, even if they are not in use.**
- Earbuds, headphones, AirPods, and/or any other electronic devices, other than student laptops must ***not*** be visible or in use during the school day in any part of the school building (including hallways, bathrooms, library, and the lunchroom), unless prior permission is granted by a teacher or a staff member, for instructional purposes in the classroom only. Students may not use cell phones or have them visible during lunch time.
- If cell phones or electronic devices are visible during unauthorized times of the school day, they will be confiscated by a school staff member and taken to the Student Center until the end of the school day. A \$15 fee will be assessed to the student's account. At dismissal, students may go to the Student Center to pick up confiscated cell phones and/or electronic devices.
- Students may ask for permission to use the school phone in the main office or Student Center at any time, should the child need to reach a parent or guardian.
- At no time should students be filming, recording, taking pictures of other students, accessing inappropriate websites and/or social media sites on any electronic device, while at school. Digital citizenship will be monitored and enforced.

In accordance with CCISD safety procedures, to keep the phone lines open, students are prohibited from using all telecommunications devices in an emergency, unless authorized by a teacher or staff member.