

CARMEL COMMUNITY SCHOOL CELL PHONE POLICY



A safe learning environment is our number one priority. Cell phones are a huge disruption to maintaining that safe environment. NO student cell phones, ear buds, air pods, Bluetooth headphones or speakers will be allowed to be in use on campus during the school day, for ANY reason. Cell phones must be in silent mode or turned off and checked in at the beginning of each class or stored inside backpacks. If a student requests to use the bathroom during class, they must show that their cell phone is not leaving class with them.

- 1- Earphones that are wired and plug in to their laptop, may be used, if needed, for coursework.
- 2- Students may use their cell phones when given explicit instruction from teachers to use them for academics in the classroom under teacher supervision.
- 3- If there is a medical reason to use a cell phone, that will be allowed per a 504 or health plan. (Please contact the school to arrange a meeting with the necessary documents to create a plan)

Some of the reasons for this policy:

- Students taking videos and pictures of other students and staff and posting on Snapchat, TikTok, Instagram, etc., without their permission.
- Students continually checking their phone during instruction.
- Cyberbullying on sites that allow the user to remain anonymous.
- Taking bathroom breaks as an excuse to use cell phones.
- Messaging friends or foes to meet up in the bathrooms at an appointed time. (Fights are often preplanned)
- Students blatant disrespect for staff by refusing to put away their phones when asked or listening to music in class.

The process if a student phone is not put away: the teacher will send the student and their phone to the office immediately. Administrators will call parent/guardian to retrieve the phone, as phones will not be returned to the student.

We understand the importance of parent/guardian communication.

- ❖ If your child becomes ill or has a health-related emergency at school, you will be notified by the building health tech.
- ❖ If you need to get in contact with your child, you may call the front office and the message will be relayed.
- ❖ If your child needs to get in touch with you, they may come to the front office to call home.