

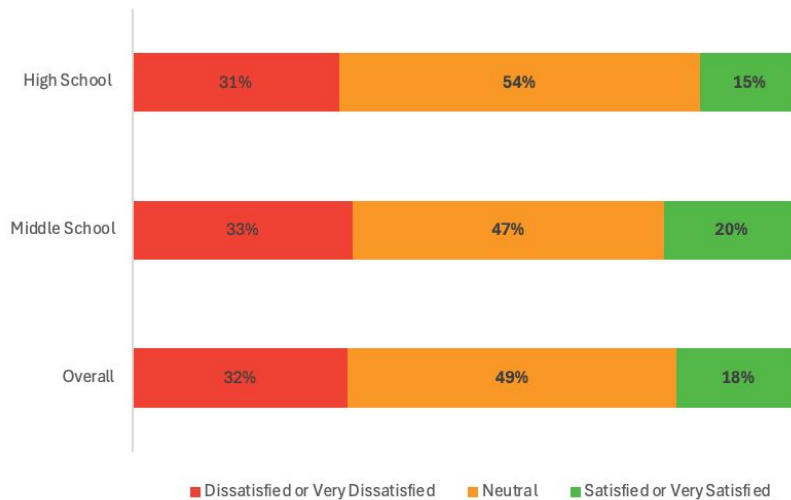
# Cell Phone Policy Community Feedback

## Survey Response Frequency

	Response Rate	Number of Responses	Number of Invitations
<b>Students</b>	21%	3,974	16,752
<b>Families*</b>	20%	5,870	28,999
<b>Staff</b>	22%	662	3,047
<b>Total</b>	22%	10,514	48,798

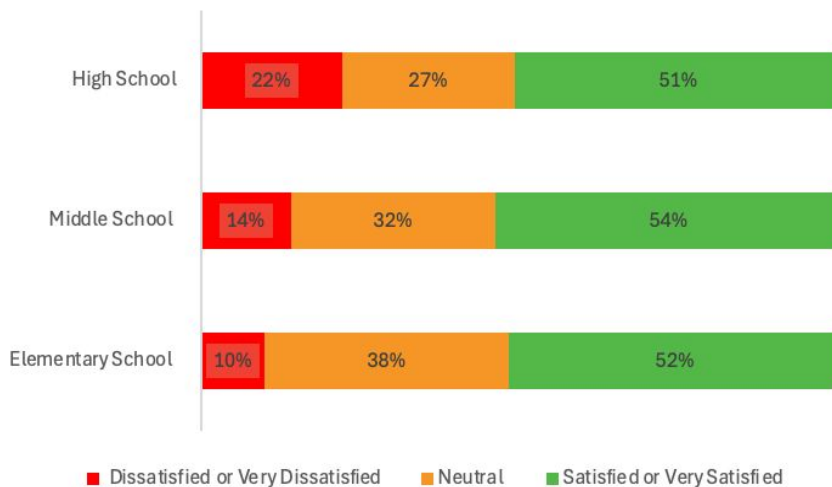
\*higher response rate in languages other than English compared to most most SPPS surveys

## Students' Satisfaction with Current Rules



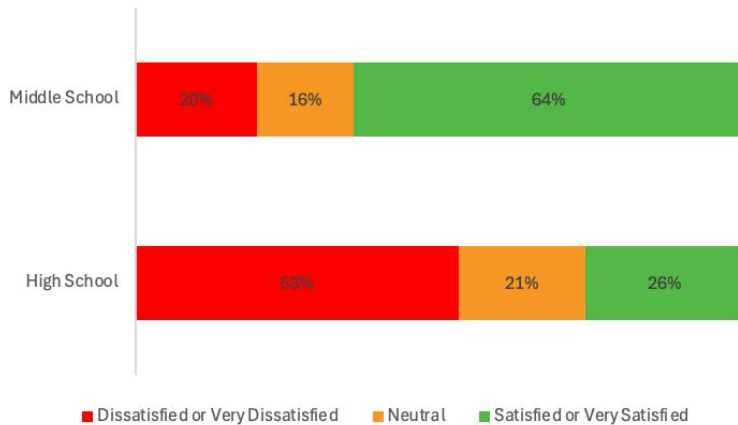
Students generally preferred less restrictive policies

## Families' Satisfaction with Current Rules



Families that were less satisfied generally desired more restrictive policies

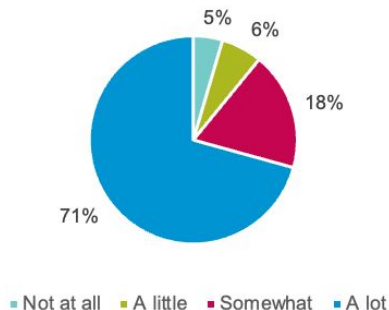
## Staff Satisfaction with Current Rules



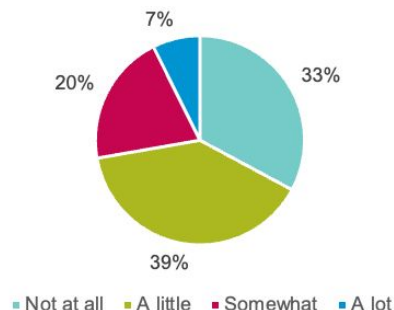
Staff at buildings with more restrictive rules reported higher levels of satisfaction

## Impact on Student Learning Perceptions

Staff Reported  
Distraction/Disruption



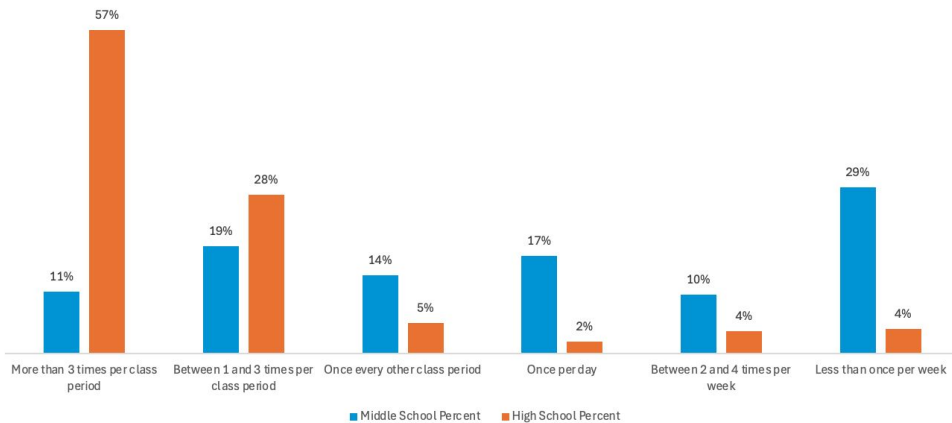
Student Reported  
Distraction/Disruption



52% of Middle School students and 87% of high school students report using their phone during the school day

## Frequency of Addressing Cell Phone Violations

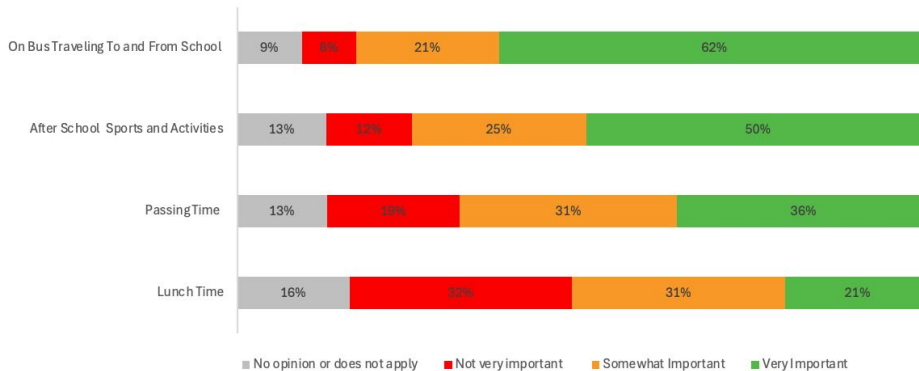
High School Versus Middle School Staff



Notably, teachers at a middle school with less restrictive rules reported over double the rates of having to address cell phone use during class.

## When Middle School Students Want their Phones

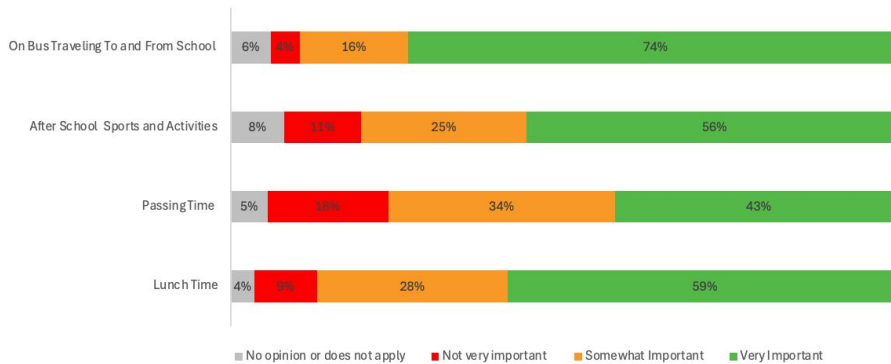
Students' Feelings on Importance of Cell Phone Access by Setting



*"I just wish it wasn't so strict, like what could my phone possibly be distracting me from during lunch time? My Italian dunkers??" - Student*

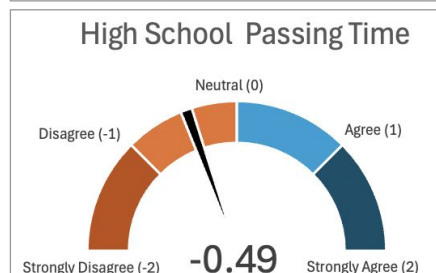
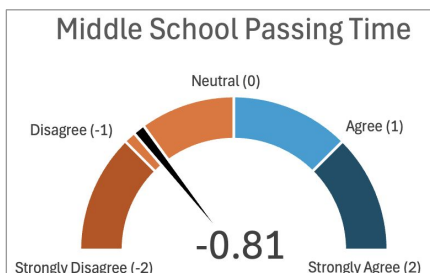
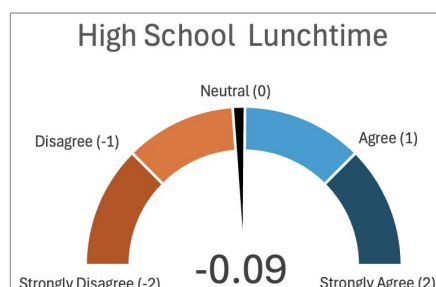
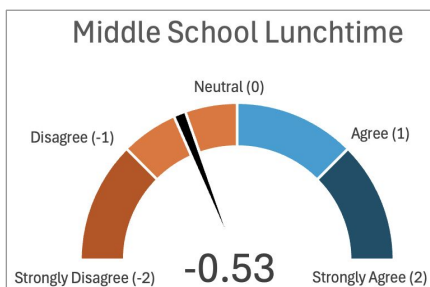
# When High School Students Want their Phones

Students' Feelings on Importance of Cell Phone Access by Setting



*"Students should be able to use their cell phones to research stuff off of the internet because SPSS blocks certain websites, and we need all the information we can get."* - Student

# Parent Views on Cell Phone Access



## Policy Preferences

- High School parents and staff preferred a policy that allows phones at lunch and passing time
- Middle school parents and staff preferred a policy that limits phones during school hours
- Elementary parents preferred a policy that limits phones during school hours as well as before and after school
- Staff should follow the spirit of the policy with reasonable exceptions

## Parent Advisory Councils

- Met with all Parent Advisory Councils, including:
  - American Indian Parent Advisory Council
  - Gender and Sexual Diversity Parent Advisory Council
  - Hmong Parent Advisory Council
  - Karen Parent Advisory Council
  - Latino Consent Decree Parent Advisory Council
  - Parents of African American Students Advisory Council
  - Somali Parent Advisory Council
  - Special Education Advisory Council
- 102 attendees

## Communication Needs

- Parents want reliable ways to reach their students
- Many said they would contact the school, but had concerns about reliability
- One parent suggested emailing their student
- Top concerns:
  - Safety and emergencies
  - Communication about daily family logistics

*"Phones can be useful for communication between parents and students—texting for non-emergencies, like appointment reminders, is more efficient than calling the office." - Parent*

## Parent Perception of Current Practices

- Often weren't aware what current practices are
- Would like consistent implementation
- Expressed the importance of families helping students learn responsibility with their devices
- Exceptions for specialized needs must be noted

*"Middle and high school students should be involved in creating and understanding the policy, teaching them responsibility." - Parent*

## Recommendations for District Policy

- Should be clear and consistent
- Should be equitably enforced
- Do not want to result in increased suspensions or exclusion
- Would like it tiered and accounting for unique programs
- Should be explicit about all devices
- Want to balance the needs of learning and instruction with parent concerns about safety and communication

*"I agree to not have cellphones in the classroom, but I think about emergency situations when they don't have access to the phone and something is happening in the school, how am I going to hear from my kids?" - Parent*

## Student Senators Roundtable

- 42 Como Park Sr students
- During school day
- 1 hour 15 minute discussion
- Hosted by Senators Erin Murphy and Alice Mann



Senator Mann, Hayyat A., Senator Murphy



## Student Cell Phone Use During School

- Communication with family and friends
- Listening to music
- Scrolling social media
- Watching videos
- School work
  - Replacing or supplementing school-issued iPad

## How Cell Phones Impact Students

### Adds:

- Useful for academic tasks
- Mental breaks
- Quick tasks
- Listening to music

### Takes Away:

- Creates distractions
- Missing important information
- Creates disengagement