

CELL PHONES, SMART WATCHES, ELECTRONIC DEVICES [EC§48901.5]

In alignment with California Assembly Bill 3216 (2024), which restricts the use of smartphones during school hours in K–12 settings, this policy aims to support student focus, mental well-being, and academic success. We strongly recommend that personal electronic devices - such as cell phones, smart watches, and tablets - be left at home due to possible loss or damage. Neither the school nor the district assume any liability for the damage, loss, theft, or misuse of the cell phone by the student or another person. Electronic communication devices are not to be used during the school day, including recess, lunch, and passing periods.

Exceptions to this policy are permitted under the following conditions:

- Medical use as determined by a physician
- Use required in a student's IEP
- Emergencies, as appropriate, and in accordance with safety procedures
- Use granted by a teacher or administrator for an approved reason

EXPECTATIONS

- Phones must be turned off or set to silent and stored in a backpack, designated area, or with the teacher during instructional time.
- Students will not use phones once they arrive at campus in the morning and until after dismissal.
- Phones may not be used in restrooms. If a student leaves during instructional time to use the restroom, their phone must remain in the classroom.
- The use of cameras, video, or voice recording functions is strictly prohibited in any way that infringes on the privacy rights of others. This includes, but is not limited to, recording fights, peer conflicts, staff members, or medical emergencies.
- Students are expected to use technology responsibly and in accordance with the district's Acceptable Student Use of Technology Agreement.
- If a student needs to make a phone call during the school day, they should request to use a phone in the school office.
- To avoid classroom disruptions and ensure student focus, we ask that parents/guardians communicate with students during school hours only through the school office.
- Teachers and administrators may collect phones when needed to maintain a safe, respectful, and distraction-free environment.
- All of the above rules apply to the after-school program as well.

PROGRESSIVE CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION

- **1st Violation:** Verbal warning from staff.
- **2nd Violation:** Device is taken to the office by a teacher or administrator; the student may retrieve it at the end of the school day. Parent/guardian will be informed.
- **3rd Violation:** Device is taken to the office. Parent/guardian must retrieve it. Additional consequences may be assigned at the administrator's discretion.
- **4th Violation:** Device is taken to the office. Parent/guardian must retrieve it. The student may lose the privilege of bringing the device to school for the remainder of the year. Additional disciplinary action may be taken at the administrator's discretion.

This policy is intended to ensure that all students have the opportunity to engage fully in a safe, respectful, and academically focused learning environment.