

Cell Phone Policy Montpelier Schools 7-12

To support the school environment in which students can fully engage with their classmates, their teachers, and instruction, the Board of Education of **Montpelier Exempted Village School District** has determined the use of cell phones by students during school hours should be prohibited. The objective of this policy is to strengthen Montpelier School's focus on learning, in alignment with our mission to ignite students' passion for learning, cultivate a strong foundation of knowledge, and foster a sense of community within our schools.

I. RESEARCH

Research shows that student use of cell phones in schools has negative effects on student performance and mental health. Cell phones distract students from classroom instruction, resulting in smaller learning gains and lower test scores. Increased cell phone use has led to higher levels of depression, anxiety, and other mental health disorders in youth.

II. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to the use of cell phones by students while on school property during the instructional day for all students 7-12.

III. USE OF CELL PHONES

Students are prohibited from using cell phones at all times between the hours of 8AM and 3PM..

IV. EXCEPTION

Nothing in this policy prohibits a student from using a cell phone for a purpose documented in the student's individualized education program developed under Chapter 3323 of the Ohio Revised Code, a plan developed under section 504 of the "Rehabilitation Act of 1973," 29 U.S.C. 794, **or** as permitted under the building's comprehensive emergency management plan adopted under [section 5502.262 of the Revised Code](#).

A student shall use a cell phone or other electronic communication to monitor or address a health concern **if the school board receives a written statement from the student's physician requiring such use.**

V. CELL PHONE STORAGE

Students shall keep their cell phones in their student's locker at all times or not bring a phone to school at all if they have an issue leaving it in their lockers throughout the day.

VI. DISCIPLINE

If a student violates this policy, a teacher or administrator shall take the following progressive disciplinary measures:

1st offense- Give the student a verbal warning and require the student to take their cell phone to their locker.

2nd offense- Send the student's cell phone to the school's main office for the remainder of the day; student can pick it up at the 3:00 PM bell.

3rd offense- Send the student's cell phone to the school's main office to be picked up by the student's parent or guardian as soon as possible, and schedule a conference with the student's parent or guardian to discuss the student's cell phone use.