



INTERNET-ENABLED DEVICE RESTRICTIONS

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES



PURPOSE

To support a safe, respectful, and focused learning environment where students are present, engaged, and free from distractions in accordance with New York State's ban on students using internet enabled devices on instructional days.

WHAT'S PROHIBITED AND WHEN

Beginning September 2025, the use of all internet-enabled personal devices is prohibited on school grounds during the entire school day. This includes, but is not limited to:

- CELLPHONES/SMARTPHONES
- SMARTWATCHES
- META GLASSES
- OTHER INTERNET-CONNECTED DEVICES

STUDENT/PARENT MESSAGES DURING SCHOOL HOURS



- Parents will be able to contact the school via phone, email, and messaging apps to send messages to their children.
- Students will be able to access phones in the offices if they need to get in contact with their parents.

PROCEDURES FOR ALL STUDENTS

Cell phones, airpods, etc. must be off and secured during school hours. Specific details of how they are secured can be found below.



DETAILS FOR RHJ ELEMENTARY

Devices will be collected and returned at the arrival and dismissal doors.



- A cart with two "device check" boxes will be at both arrival entrances.
- Students will be assigned a number when turning in their device(s) and given a "device check" card.
- Carts will be stored in the main office throughout the school day.
- Carts will return to the entrance doors at dismissal for students to return their card for their device(s).
- If a student arrives late to school or leaves early, devices will be collected or returned in the main office.

DETAILS FOR THE MS/HS

7th and 8th Grades

- Students will turn off their cell phones and place them in their assigned numbered slot in the case upon arrival.
- Locked cases will be stored in the main office throughout the school day.
- Cases will return to the entrance doors at dismissal for students to pick up their devices.
- If a student arrives late to school or leaves early, devices will be collected or returned in the main office.

9th-12th Grades

- Devices will be turned off and stored in lockers from bell to bell.



CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE (RHJ)

- **Violation #1 (Warning)**
 - Device confiscated by staff, delivered to main office.
 - Referral with warning.
 - Device picked up by student at the office at the end of the day.
- **Violation #2 (Lunch Detention)**
 - Device confiscated by staff, delivered to main office.
 - Referral with lunch detention.
 - Device picked up by parent at the office at the end of the day.
- **Violation #3 (After-School Detention)**
 - Device confiscated by staff, delivered to main office.
 - Students serve an after-school detention from 3:05 PM – 3:50 PM.
 - Device picked up by parent at the office at the end of the day.
- The Building Principal, or his/her designee has the discretion to assign additional consequences if there are subsequent violations.

CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE (MS/HS)

- **Violation #1 (Warning)**
 - Device confiscated by staff.
 - Referral with warning.
 - Device picked up at the office at the end of the school day.
- **Violation #2 (Detention)**
 - Device confiscated by staff.
 - Referral with detention from 2:20 PM – 3:00 PM.
 - Device picked up after detention.
- **Violation #3 (Extended Detention)**
 - Device confiscated by staff.
 - Students serve extended detention from 2:20 PM – 3:40 PM.
 - The parent/Guardian must pick up the device.
- The Building Principal, or his/her designee has the discretion to assign additional consequences if there are subsequent violations.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS



MEDICAL/IEP/504 ACCOMMODATIONS

An exception will be made for students who require an internet-enabled device to manage a documented health-related reason. This must be clearly stated in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Accommodation Plan, along with a medical note from their doctor.

STUDENTS WHO ATTEND BOCES

BOCES students will be permitted to take their phones to BOCES with them where they will comply with procedures established by BOCES to comply with the new regulations.



BELL-TO-BELL ENFORCEMENT

This restriction applies only to the regular school day ("bell-to-bell"). Students are permitted to use their devices while on school buses and at before and after school activities (at teacher/coach discretion).