

# *LOWELLVILLE LOCAL SCHOOLS*

*52 ROCKET PLACE  
LOWELLVILLE, OHIO 44436*

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## **LOWELLVILLE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Updated Cell Phone Policy**

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

Recent changes in Ohio law require schools to implement stricter guidelines around student cell phone use during the school day. In response, Lowellville Local Schools has updated its cell phone policy to maintain a safe, focused, and distraction-free learning environment. The updated guidelines below will go into effect on **January 5, 2026**

### **Updated Cell Phone Expectations (Grades K–12)**

#### **● No Cell Phone Use During the School Day**

**Students are not permitted to use their cell phones at any time during the school day**—including during lunch, transitions, and while in hallways or restrooms—except for student learning or to monitor or address a health concern if included in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), a 504 plan, or for another reason deemed appropriate by the Superintendent/designee, or if the Board receives a written statement from the student's physician requiring such use.

#### **● Storage Options**

Students may still bring their phones to school. Phones must be stored in one of the following locations for the entire school day:

- The classroom cell phone pocket chart
- The student's locker
- The student's purse or pocket

#### **● Visible Phone = Violation**

After the start of class, if a phone is seen in a student's hand or used in the classroom, hallways, cafeteria, restrooms, or any school area, it will be considered a violation of the policy.

### **Updated Disciplinary Actions**

#### **● 1st Offense:**

- Phone is confiscated.
- A parent/guardian must pick it up in the **main office by 3:30 PM.**

- If a parent cannot pick it up the same day, it will be returned to the student the following morning.
- **2nd Offense:**
  - Phone is confiscated and will only be released to a parent/guardian.
  - Parent/guardian must pick up the phone in the **main office by 3:30 PM.**
- **3rd & Subsequent Offenses:**
  - Phone must be picked up by a parent/guardian in the **main office by 3:30 PM.**
  - The student will receive a detention.
  - Continued violations will result in further disciplinary action.

### **Parent Communication**

Parents needing to reach their child during the school day should call the **main office**, and messages will be delivered. Students will also be permitted to call home through the office when needed.

Thank you for your support as we implement these state-required changes. Our goal is to reduce distractions, improve student engagement, and ensure a positive learning environment for all students. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Sincerely,

Tracie Parry  
Principal

Jeff Hammond  
Assistant Principal