

RCCSD Communication Devices (Student Cell Phone Policy)

The Red Clay Consolidated School District acknowledges that electronic communication devices such as cell phones are common amongst students and provide families with a sense of security and safety through immediate and direct communication. However, use of these devices including smart phones, personal tablets, smart watches, etc during the school day may disrupt the educational process. In addition, without prior approval, use of cell phones during fire drills, or in the case of an emergency, may create dangerous situations by disseminating misinformation or interrupting administrative procedures.

Student use of these devices in an unauthorized area as outlined below will be subject to all interventions and consequences outlined in Chapter 6 of this handbook in accordance with uniform definition "Unauthorized Use of an Electronic Device (§1009)."

Schools Without High School Grade Configurations

Students whose parents require that they have a cell phone or other personal electronic device at school are to keep them off and away at all times during the instructional day. Use of these devices at any point during the school day is considered "unauthorized." These devices must be kept in a clothing pocket, secured bookbag, or locker (locked when possible) at all times.

Schools With High School Grade Configurations

Schools with high school configurations will develop their own policies regarding electronic devices that clearly delineate authorized and unauthorized non-instructional areas and times when students may and may not use cell phones and other personal electronic devices. Use of these devices in classrooms is unauthorized unless directed by the classroom teacher.

Cell phone usage should be limited during instructional time.

Loss/Theft

Cell phones and other electronic devices are personal property, and students are urged to take precautions to guard against loss or theft. The Red Clay Consolidated School District is not responsible for the loss or theft of students' property.

Communication of Policy

Schools will communicate this policy and school specific authorized areas at the beginning of each school year.

Educational Accommodations

This policy does not apply to educational accommodations for students by educational teams.

Data Review

Schools shall monitor discipline data related to cell phone and other personal electronic device policy violations to promote consistent and equitable enforcement and to inform periodic policy review.