



THE EWING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Fisher Middle School

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September 1, 2026

Dear Fisher Middle School Families,

I hope this letter finds you and your family enjoying a relaxing summer filled with time together with family and friends.

As we prepare to welcome our students back for the 2026-2027 school year, I want to share an important update regarding student cell phone use during the school day.

In January 2026, New Jersey enacted P.L. 2025, c.195, requiring all public school districts to implement a **"bell-to-bell" policy** prohibiting the non-academic use of cell phones and other internet-enabled devices during the school day. Beginning this school year, all New Jersey districts are required to adopt policies aligned with guidance from the New Jersey Department of Education.

The goal is simple: to maximize learning, increase student engagement, strengthen peer relationships, and minimize distractions. Research consistently shows that limiting access to personal electronic devices during the school day improves students' focus, participation, and overall school experience.

At Fisher Middle School, our expectation is as follows:

**All cell phones, smartwatches, earbuds, headphones, and other personal electronic devices must remain put away from 8:25 a.m. until 3:05 p.m. This "bell-to-bell" expectation means that students may not use these devices during class, passing time, lunch, or any other part of the instructional day unless specifically authorized under an approved exception consistent with state law and district policy.**

Please also note that Fisher Middle School and the Ewing Public Schools are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged internet-enabled devices that students choose to bring to school. We encourage families to carefully consider whether these devices are necessary during the school day.

Students who violate this expectation will be subject to the following progressive consequences:

- 1st Offense: Students will be given an official warning.
- 2nd Offense: Device confiscated until the end of the school day. The student may retrieve the device from the main office.



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- 3rd Offense and Beyond: Device confiscated. A parent/guardian must pick up the device, an office disciplinary referral will be issued, and disciplinary consequences will be assigned in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

If you need to communicate with your child during the school day, please contact the Fisher Middle School Main Office. Likewise, if your child needs to reach you, they may do so through the Main Office.

We appreciate your partnership in reinforcing these expectations at home. Together, we can provide a learning environment where students remain focused, engaged, and successful throughout the school day.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a fantastic school year!

Sincerely,



Dr. Maggy Hanna  
Principal  
Fisher Middle School