



Middle and High School Cell Phone Policy Academic Year 2025–2026

To foster academic excellence, focused learning, meaningful communication, and positive peer relationships, the use of cell phones, headphones, or earbuds will not be permitted during the academic day and meal times for all middle and high school students.

Policy Guidelines

- Cell phones, headphones, or earbuds may not be used, visible, or carried during:
 - the academic day (first bell to final dismissal)
 - all meal times, including breakfast, lunch, and dinner
 - academic day field trips and excursions
 - This includes classrooms, hallways, restrooms, the TLC, study spaces, dining facilities, and locker rooms.
- Location and Storage
 - Students are expected to keep their cell phones secured in their residence hall rooms during the academic day. Day students are permitted to keep their cell phones turned off and in their backpacks.
 - Phones should not be brought to class, chapel, the dining hall, or any other academic or communal area.
- Emergency or Special Use
 - In the event a student needs to make or receive an urgent call, this can be done through the Academic Office.

Purpose and Rationale

- Increase academic focus and reduce distractions
- Encourage engaged learning and participation
- Promote face-to-face communication and positive peer interactions
- Reflect the growing national trend among schools to limit mobile device use during school hours in support of adolescent development and wellness

Consequences for Policy Violation

- First Offense: Phone is turned in and held with the teacher until the end of the academic day.
- Second Offense: Phone is held overnight by the Academic Office and returned at the end of the next Academic Day and a parent/guardian is notified.
- Third Offense: Phone is held for the remainder of the school week and a parent/guardian is notified.
- Fourth Offense: Conference with parents/guardians required; additional behavioral interventions may be implemented.
- Students refusing to turn the phone in when asked will be sent to Mr. Fink's office.