

Increasing technology innovations in cell phones have presented new concerns about classroom disruptions and student safety at school. The advantages of students being able to have cell phone contact during school time with family members are now outweighed by problems and risks being experienced in schools throughout the nation. The following policy has been enacted to mitigate current and future issues of student safety and disruptions to the learning process for students of the Grace School District:

1. Student cell phones are not allowed at school from 7:55 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; this includes, but is not limited to, all school district grounds & parking lots, buildings, facilities, passing periods between classes, lunch hours, etc.
2. A telephone will be available for student use in the elementary school main offices, in the main office of the high school, and in the foyer of both the junior high and high school buildings. School district phones are not to be used during class time and the student is to obtain permission before using any school office phone.
3. On the day of a school trip that begins during school hours and ends after school hours, cell phones may be checked into the high school office BEFORE school begins at 7:55 a.m. and then picked up from the office as the students load the bus to leave for the trip.
4. If a cell phone is confiscated by a teacher or administration, the owner of the cell phone will have no expectation of privacy. The school is authorized to check the confiscated cell phone if there is any reasonable suspicion of impropriety.
5. Students who are found in possession of a cell phone during school hours will be expected to surrender the cell phone at the request of a staff member, teacher, or administrator. Failure to surrender the phone will be considered insubordination and subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the student handbook.
6. The following are the consequences for failure to follow this cell phone policy:
 - 1st Offense: Cell phone is taken and turned into the office. A parent/guardian will need to pick up the phone.
 - 2nd Offense: Cell phone is taken and turned into the office. The student will be suspended from school for one day. A parent/guardian will need to pick up the phone from the office.
 - 3rd Offense: Cell phone is taken and turned into the office. A parent/guardian will need to pick up the phone from the office. The student will be suspended from school for three days.
 - Further Offenses: The student is subject to a school board hearing for expulsion from school.

ADOPTED: JUNE 10, 2009

REVIEWED: March 14, 2012

AMENDED:

