

Lindale Middle School

Cellphone Policy



Lindale Middle School believes in the importance of technology in instruction. Lindale Middle School recognizes cellphones as part of the fabric of 21st century society. While we appreciate that cell phones have positively changed our lives in many ways, the negativity brought into the school building via these devices far outweighs any positive contributions. Highly inappropriate content, cyberbullying, intimidation, harassment, theft, fight videos, rumors, snapchats, Instagram live, Instagram stories, facetime, air drops, texts, and group chats are the reasons our teachers spend countless precious minutes away from instructional time and administrators spend countless precious hours away from instructional leadership. Those minutes and hours lost are negatively impacting not only the culture of Lindale Middle School, but the academic achievement of the community as a whole.

Therefore, Lindale Middle has adopted an “Away for the Day” policy which will require that **all electronic devices and accessories are kept in students’ individual lockers during the school day and completely out of sight.** Specifically, the following is the expectation of Lindale Middle:

*Cell phones must be turned off and cannot be visible on campus throughout the duration of the school day.

*The campus includes once students enter into the school building and surrounding school grounds.

*The school day includes, but is not limited to, class time, passing periods, lunch periods, after school detention or tutorials, during emergency drills, practices for extracurricular events and field trips.

***Placing a cell phone on vibrate or texting is not considered off and is prohibited.**

*Using a cell phone to record or video tape is prohibited and consequences will be issued for participation in recording.

*Students are not permitted to possess video or audio recorders, cameras, games or other electronic devices at school unless prior permission has been obtained by campus administration.

*All students and families will be provided the cellphone policy at the beginning of the year and students will sign that they have reviewed the cellphone policy with their advisory teacher.

Consequences (for school year 2019-2020):

1st Offense: Warning/Confiscated by administration and returned to student at end of day; administrator contact parent and remind of future offenses/consequences.

2nd Offense: Administration confiscate/conference and return to student at end of day; administrator contact parent and remind of policy and after school detention assigned.

3rd Offense: Confiscated by administration and returned upon family coming to school to retrieve phone/conference and Saturday school.

4th Offense: Confiscated by administration and returned upon family coming to school to retrieve phone/conference and in school suspension assigned (1-2 day).

5th Offense: Confiscated by administration and returned upon family coming to school to retrieve phone/conference and out of school suspension for insubordination (1-2 days).

6th Offense: Confiscated by administration and return upon family coming to school to retrieve phone/conference and out of school suspension for insubordination (1-2 days).

7th Offense: Confiscated by administration and returned upon family coming to school to retrieve phone; phone “banned” from school campus remainder of the year

Phones will be placed in a closet in the front office, ziplocked with student name and returned upon parent/guardian picking up phone.