

## **Bettye Myers Middle School Cell Phone Policy**

Research indicates that students who are free from smartphone distractions are more engaged in learning and more present in social interactions. To enhance focus and interaction, we ask that students keep their phones in their backpacks throughout the school day. Phones are permitted in the building and may be used from arrival until the first bell at 8:10 AM. After 8:10 AM, phones should be placed in backpacks and retrieved at the end of the school day.

If you need to contact your child during school hours, please call the office at (940) 369-1500, and we will relay any urgent messages. Similarly, students may use the phone in the front office for emergency calls home.

### **Guidelines for Mobile Phones and Other Devices:**

1. **Phone Use:** Phones must be turned off and stored in backpacks during the instructional day, including during tests, unless used for approved instructional purposes.
2. **Other Devices:** Students need administrative or teacher approval to use personal devices such as laptops, tablets, or other portable computers on campus.
3. **Restricted Areas:** The use of phones or devices capable of capturing images is prohibited in locker rooms, and restrooms.
4. **Visibility and Usage:** Except for approved purposes, telecommunication and electronic devices should not be visible, audible, or used during school hours, as determined by the principal.

### **Consequences for Unauthorized Use:**

1. **First Offense:** The student will receive a warning from the office, and parents will be contacted.
2. **Second Offense:** The student will be referred to the office, parents will be contacted, and the student will be given the option to either complete a campus-approved Cell Phone course, or pay \$15, in order to retrieve the phone.
3. **Third and Subsequent offenses:** The student will be referred to the office, parents will be contacted, and the parent must pick up the phone from the office and pay a \$15 fee.

Confiscated devices not retrieved by students or parents will be disposed of after the legally required notice. [See policy FNCE.]

In limited circumstances, authorized personnel may search a student's personal telecommunications device in accordance with the law. [See Searches and Policy FNF.]

Disciplinary actions will align with the Student Code of Conduct. The district is not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen devices.

At Bettye Myers Middle School, our goal is to provide the best educational experience possible. We believe this policy will support our students in achieving continued success. Thank you for your cooperation and support!

Go Titans!

