

MRMS CELL PHONE ACCEPTABLE USE GUIDELINES

NO CELL FROM BELL TO BELL

At Miles River Middle School we strive to help our students be safe, responsible, and considerate learners through positive academic and social interactions with school staff and peers. Cell phones and personal electronic devices play an integral role in the lives of our students. To provide the best learning environment possible for all members of our learning community, we have a practice of ***No Cell From Bell to Bell***. Students are expected to follow our cell phone/electronic device guidelines during the school day, and the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District Internet Acceptable Use Policy expectations apply to student cell phone/personal device use.

Students are sometimes put in a difficult position of choosing between answering a parent text/call or breaking school rules. We ask that families assist us in helping students focus on their learning during the school day by refraining from texting/calling students. Please contact the main office if you need to get a message to your student, and we will be happy to assist.

At all times, *unless in use as permitted by a classroom teacher*, cell phones should be off (powered down) and out of sight. Phones may be kept in a student's locker or on their person.

Never Allowed

Locations Where Cell Phones/Devices Are Never Allowed During the School Day:

Students may *not* bring their devices into the following locations:

- **Bathrooms**
- **Locker Rooms**

Cell Phone/Device Use Never Permitted During the School Day

- Hallways
- Lunch
- Library
- Recess
- Assemblies
- TEAM

Before and After School:

Before School: Cell phone use is permitted in the Multi-Purpose Room or on the basketball courts, but must be completely (including ear buds) turned off and put away before entering the building or hallways at 7:35 a.m.

After School: Cell phone use is **not permitted** until students have left the building after dismissal. Cell phones and personal devices must remain turned off and out of sight until that time.

During the School Day

During the school day (7:35 - 2:20) cell phones and personal electronic devices are to be turned off and put away. Combination locks for lockers are available from the office at no charge, and only school issued locks may be used.

Cell Phone Limited Use:

- **Classroom Direct Instruction:** Teachers may give permission for students to use phones/electronic devices in their learning for activities including, but not limited to: filming, online groups, calculators, timers, etc. that is related to the learning at hand.
- **After School Activities:** Students may only use cell phones with the permission of the instructor during after school activities.
- **Field Trips:** Teams will decide on the appropriate use of cell phones for individual field trips. Museum or location restrictions may determine appropriate use.

Consequences for Student Misuse:

First offense: The device/phone will be taken from the student, and they may pick it up at the end of the day in the office. Parents will be notified.

Second offense: The phone will be taken from the student, and **parents will be expected to pick the device up at the school.**

Subsequent offenses: Phone will be taken from the student, the parent will be contacted and required to come in and pick up their student's phone. Longer-term consequences, such as leaving the phone at home or in the main office during the school day for an extended period of school days, will be given.