



CELL PHONE and ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY (Grades 6-8)

Beginning with the 2017-18 school year, the following cell phone policy will be in effect for students in grades 6-8. SFDR CISD students in possession of a cell phone must comply with the SFDR CISD Cell Phone/Electronic Devices Policy and the SFDR CISD Acceptable Use Agreement.

All students **will be allowed** to use their cell phones/electronic devices during the following non-instructional school times:

- Before the first instructional bell rings.
- After the end-of-school dismissal bell.
- During out-of-town school sponsored events with parent and sponsor's permission.

All students **will not be allowed** to use their cell phones during instructional time.

- Instructional time is defined as the time from the first tone of the tardy bell to the first tone of the dismissal bell.
- Cell phones must ALWAYS be turned off and out of sight during instructional time, during passing periods and during lunch time. Students should wait until they exit the building after school to access their cell phone.
- Headphones may only be used before and after school, and with the sponsor's permission during school sponsored out-of-town trips.

Note: Parents are requested not to contact their child during the instructional school day via cell phone. If an emergency occurs and parents need to speak to their child, please contact the school for assistance.

CYBER SAFETY

Cyber-Safety awareness and training will be required while putting into practice social and professional etiquette relating to electronic devices. In addition to the rules outlined in these guidelines, students will be expected to comply with all class and school rules. The use of a cell phone is not a right but a privilege. When abused, privileges will be withdrawn. The following are considered more serious offenses/infractions and will be referred directly to the administration to be reviewed:

- Students are strictly prohibited from using cell phones or any electronic device for capturing images in locker rooms, restroom areas or any other area prohibited by the campus/District.
- Students are strictly prohibited from using Social Media (e.g. Facebook, FaceTime, Instagram, etc.) to post pictures or take video during instructional time.
- Students are strictly prohibited from "bullying", particularly cyberbullying, or posting of derogatory statements about students, faculty, or staff via text message or Social Media.

If there is a reasonable cause to believe that any cell phone or electronic device has been used in the transmission or reception of communications prohibited by law, policy, or regulation, students will be subject to disciplinary action. [See FNCE(LOCAL)]



CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF POLICY

Violating the established policy will result in the following:

- First offense- the phone will be confiscated and must be picked up by a parent or guardian after three (3) calendar days.
- Second offense- the phone will be confiscated and must be picked up by a parent or guardian after six (6) calendar days.
- Third offense- the phone will be confiscated and must be picked up by a parent or guardian after ten (10) calendar days.
- Fourth offense - the phone will be confiscated for the remainder of the school year and cell phone privileges will be revoked.

Students who do not adhere to these guidelines will be subjected to other disciplinary actions. Students who are in possession of cell phones must adhere to the Student Code of Conduct, the SFDRCS Student Handbook, the SFDRCS Acceptable Use Policy, and all Board Policies.

Failure to relinquish the communication device to school personnel when asked to do so or repeated violations may result in additional disciplinary action, including confiscation of the device for a period of time up to the remainder of the school year.

A student's parent or guardian may pick up the device after showing proof of ownership. If the device is not claimed, the student's parent or guardian whose name and address appears on the device shall be given 30 days prior notice of the district's intent to dispose of the device.