

HURRICANE MIDDLE SCHOOL

CELL/SMART PHONE & ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

Dear Parents & Guardians,

We are asking for your support in dealing with problems associated with inappropriate use of cell/smart phones and other electronic devices at HMS. It has been proven that calling or answering calls, sending and receiving texts and pictures, and browsing the internet and social media sites can be detrimental to the learning process and can cause behavior/discipline problems. The use of cell/smart phones in class does have a negative impact on learning. We realize cell/smart phones and other electronic devices are not inherently bad or evil, but want to help teach appropriate use of these devices for not only now but throughout our students' lives.

We are not only concerned about the everyday uses of cell/smart phones in class, but we are even more concerned about the potential harm cell/smart phones and electronic devices could cause to our students. Any of the more serious violations of our Safe Schools Policy could result in suspension, expulsion, or legal/criminal action. Our biggest concerns include the following:

- Cyber-Bullying – Please discuss and monitor this issue with your student. If you discover that your student is involved as a sender, or receiver of this type of bullying (or any other type of bullying) please let HMS administration or counselors know as soon as possible so we can act.
- Cheating – Through texting information or taking pictures of, and distributing tests and quizzes.
- Texting - Profanity, Intimidation, Threats, Violence, Bullying, and Sexual Harassment.
- Pornography – Taking, sending, or receiving.

In an effort to reduce distractions and focus attention on learning, the following commitment is collectively in force at Hurricane Middle School.

HMS Cell Phone & Electronics Policy:

Student use of electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, MP3 players, headphones, ear buds, Bluetooth Devices, or other Electronics) is prohibited during class time. Students can use smart phones and other electronic devices before school, during their lunch period, and after school, but not in class. Students are strongly encouraged to leave electronic devices at home. If a student chooses to bring electronic devices to school, the device must remain out of sight and in silent mode or turned off during the entire class period. Students cannot use cell phones or electronic devices in the library at any time.

We ask that you avoid contacting your student during class time. Students can be contacted during class time if necessary, by calling the main office.

If the Cell Phone & Electronics Policy is violated by a student it will result in the following actions:

- 1st Offense – Device confiscated; Student can pick it up after school from the main office.**
- 2nd Offense – Device confiscated; Parent or guardian must pick it up from the main office.**
- 3rd Offense – Device confiscated; Parent or guardian must pick it up from the main office and the student will receive lunch detention or in-school suspension.**

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian email address: _____