

Jackson County Schools Bylaws & Policies

5136 - STUDENT USE OF CELLULAR TELEPHONES

The use and/or display of cellular telephones is prohibited during the school day. These devices may be used with the **prior approval of the school principal** when their use relates to an educational or medical purpose. At the high school level, the principal may authorize student use of devices in the classroom, at the direction of the teacher for educational purposes, and on campus before school and during the lunch period(s). High school principals are authorized to restrict student usage of devices at any time in the event that such usage becomes problematic and interferes with the efficient operation of the school. When not authorized for use, cellular telephones shall be turned off. For the purpose of this policy, the school day shall be defined as from the time the student arrives on school grounds until the dismissal bell. After-school tutorial and disciplinary programs are an extension of the school day for participating students, and the prohibition of cell phones in these activities extends until the conclusion of the program.

Students involved in extracurricular activities after school is dismissed shall have the cell phone set to "silent" or "vibrate" mode so that the extracurricular activity will not be disrupted. Student use of cell phones during extracurricular activities may be regulated by the coach or group sponsor as needed to prevent disruptions.

Violations of this policy will result in the following penalties:

Elementary Schools:

1st Offense	The telephone will be confiscated and returned to the parent/guardian following a conference with the student and parent.
2nd Offense	The telephone will be confiscated and returned to the parent/guardian. The student will be assigned to detention or be subject to a loss of recess time.
3rd Offense	The telephone will be confiscated and returned to the parent/guardian. The student will be suspended from school for one (1) day.
Subsequent Offenses:	The telephone will be confiscated and returned to the parent/guardian. The suspension may be increased and the privilege of possessing a cell phone at school may be revoked.

Middle and High Schools:

1st Offense	The telephone will be confiscated and returned to the parent/guardian. The student will be assigned to one (1) day of In-School Suspension or the equivalent number of hours of after-school ALC at the discretion of the principal
-------------	---

2nd Offense	The telephone will be confiscated and returned to the parent/guardian. The student will be assigned to two (2) days of In-School Suspension or the equivalent number of hours of after-school ALC at the discretion of the principal
3rd Offense	The telephone will be confiscated and returned to the parent/guardian. The student will be suspended from school for three (3) days.
Subsequent Offenses:	The telephone will be confiscated and returned to the parent/guardian. The suspension may be increased and the privilege of possessing a cell phone at school may be revoked.

In the event that a cellular telephone is used for an illegal activity, the principal shall report the matter to law enforcement officials. Use of a cellular telephone for purposes of academic dishonesty, recording of altercations, or unethical or immoral activities shall carry additional penalties at the discretion of the principal.

The Board is not responsible for theft, loss, damage or vandalism to cellular telephones brought onto its property.

Parents/Guardians are advised that the best way to get in touch with their children during the school day is by calling the school office.

Revised 9/1/16

© Neola 2010