

PERSONAL ELECTRONICS

WHAT?

As of May 2025, and effective September 2025, the NY State “bell-to-bell” cell phone policy mandates schools to develop and implement a plan that removes phones and other personal electronic devices from the classroom and other school settings during the instructional day.

Personal electronics include cell phones, personal tablets, wireless headphones or earbuds, gaming devices, etc.



CONSEQUENCES

- Consequences for personal electronics violations will be progressive. Administration, teachers, parents/guardians, and students will work together at each level to find solutions and opportunities to teach and learn.
- Students will not be suspended solely on the grounds of a personal electronic violation.



WHY?

- Increase opportunities for classroom engagement, social interaction, and social-emotional growth.
- Remove barriers to increase focus.
- Create learning environments in classrooms where teachers can focus solely on teaching.
- Promote a safer, healthier, and richer educational experience for all students.



HOW?

- Students will store personal electronics in their lockers—they will receive locks on the first day of school.
- Phones will be expected to be off and away in lockers for the remainder of the school day.
- If staff see a phone on a student, the phone will be confiscated for the remainder of the day.



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