Dear High School Parents and Guardians, August 2026

We hope you are enjoying your summer! As we prepare for the 2026–2027 school year, we want to remind families that our district-wide cell phone policy will continue for its second year. The policy, which was approved by the Board of Education and implemented last school year, will remain in effect for the 2026–2027 school year. The full policy can be found here: Cell Phone/Electronic Devices Policy. Below, we have highlighted the information that is most relevant to our high school students and families.

Overview:

To ensure a focused and respectful learning environment, students must have their cell phones and personal electronic devices turned off and placed in classroom storage boxes upon entering any instructional space and remain there for the duration of the period. This includes study halls and brief exits (bathroom, guidance, etc.).

This means:

- Devices must be powered down and placed in storage containers upon entering the classroom. Phones and devices must not be visible in any instructional space.
- Phones may be used in the hallways during passing times and during the 30 minute lunch period in the cafeteria.

Enforcement & Consequences:

Violations of the policy will follow our **progressive discipline process**, including:

- Confiscation of the device in the main office
- Parent/guardian contact and required pickup
- Additional disciplinary action per the Student Code of Conduct, including in-school suspension

Communication Plan in Case of Emergency:

We understand that staying connected is important, especially in emergency situations. Here is how we will ensure open lines of communication:

- If students need to contact a parent/guardian, they should report to the main office, where staff will assist them in making a call.

- If a parent/guardian needs to reach their child due to an emergency, please call the main office, and a secretary will deliver the message to the student.
- In the event of a school-wide emergency, the school or district will notify families via the emergency notification system.
- To ensure timely and accurate communication, it is essential that the school has up-to-date contact information for all families. Please update your information in the Parent Portal.
- Additionally, families must be opted into all school/district communication systems to receive critical updates. If you are unsure whether you are fully subscribed to district alerts, please contact the school office for assistance.

We ask for your support in reinforcing these expectations at home. Our goal is to minimize distractions and help all students stay fully engaged in their learning. If you have any questions, please reach out.

Thank you for partnering with us to support a safe and productive learning environment.

Sincerely,

Katie Graf, Ed.D.
Principal, Bunnell High School

Jack Dellapiano
Principal, Stratford High School