

Wireless Communication Devices

Neenah High School recognizes that today's students are Digital Natives of the Internet Generation. We feel it is time to embrace this reality. Therefore, NHS has adopted a new cell phone policy. By managing the environment in which cell phones are used NHS will be able to focus on teaching phone etiquette and on providing students with the opportunity to demonstrate responsibility.

POLICY

Student cell phones/communication devices are not to be seen or heard in the classroom for any reason unless the student has been specifically given permission by the classroom teacher. The classroom teacher may determine if students are allowed to use phones or electronic devices in their classrooms. This decision will be based on educational values. **It is the student's responsibility to ensure that a cellular phone or electronic device is set to silent during their class periods. Phones must be silenced.** If a phone is heard during class, it will be considered a violation of the cell phone policy. This includes all sounds. Students ARE NOT permitted to leave class for the purpose of using a cell phone or communication device. In the case of an emergency, students may ask permission to be sent to an office where they can use their phone or a school provided phone.

If a phone is confiscated by a classroom teacher, the phone will be secured in a safe place until the teacher can take the phone to an office. Students who refuse to comply with this policy or waste additional class time by insisting on removing the battery or the SIM card may face the consequences of a double violation.

The use of cell phones/communication devices, however, will be permitted in the hallways at passing time and in the cafeteria area during the student's lunch time. **Students should not call or text students who are in class.** Phones may be set to vibrate or silent in the cafeteria and hallways.

School personnel have the authority to detain and search, or authorize the search of, any student upon reasonable suspicion of inappropriate use of a wireless communication device. School personnel have the authority to confiscate or to remove the wireless communication device from the student's possession. After the third time a wireless communication device is removed from the same student, the device will not be released to the student; however, parents may be asked to pick up any device confiscated under this policy.

Parents are discouraged from calling or texting students on their cell phones during school hours. We encourage parents to contact the High School Student Services Office (ext. 113) to leave a message for their student. If an emergency situation occurs, students will be allowed to use a phone in the school office to contact the parent promptly.

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ACCEPTABLE TIMES FOR USE OF CELLULAR DEVICES

For clarification purposes, cell phones may only be used before school, during passing times, during lunch, and after school hours.

The use of cell phones during passing time is not an excuse for tardiness. **If a student is tardy and still using his/her cell phone or electronic device when entering the classroom, he/she will be given a tardy and a violation of the cell phone policy. The phone/device must be put away before entering the classroom.**

VIOLATIONS OF THIS POLICY

In order to maintain consistency throughout the school, and to record the number of violations a student has, it is important that all cell phone violations be reported via the Online Discipline Referral.

Violation 1: The student's cell phone/communication device will be confiscated by the teacher and may be returned after class. The teacher will follow the Basic Classroom Management Flowchart. However, an online Discipline Referral must be submitted for documentation purposes only.

Violation 2: The student's cell phone/communication device will be confiscated and turned in to the nearest office. An Online Discipline Referral will be submitted. The student may pick up the phone after school, at which time the student will conference with an administrator and be given a form which must be signed by parents, and returned, in which they, the parents, acknowledge the policy.

Violation 3: The student's cell phone/communication device will be confiscated and turned in to the nearest office. An Online Discipline Referral will be submitted. The student will be assigned an Administrative Detention. With administrative approval, the phone will be returned to a parent/guardian or people listed as emergency contacts in certain situations.

Violation 4: The student's cell phone/communication device will be confiscated and turned in to the nearest office. An Online Discipline Referral will be submitted. The student will be assigned one (1) Mod of In-School Suspension. With administrative approval, the phone will be returned to a parent/guardian or people listed as emergency contacts in certain situations.

Violation 5: The student's cell phone/communication device will be confiscated and turned in to the nearest office. An Online Discipline Referral will be submitted. The student will be assigned one (1) full day of In-School Suspension. The phone will only be returned to a parent/guardian and the parent and student must attend a mandatory meeting with administration.

Additional violations of this policy may result in more severe consequences including, but not limited to suspension and/or expulsion for repeated refusal to follow school rules.