

Cell Phone Policy

Highland Middle School recognizes the value of communication and acknowledges the role the cell phones play in today's society. We acknowledge that many tasks and practices where the use of cell phones can enhance a student's education. Checking grades on *Infinite Campus*, accessing quiz programs such as *Kahoot*, quick research activities, and scientific calculator apps are examples of this. We also realize that cell phones can present a significant distraction that interferes with learning.

During instructional time, unless specifically directed otherwise by a teacher, students will have two options regarding the storage of their cell phones:

1st option: Students may keep their phones secured in their backpack or a hall locker. If stored in a student's backpack, the phone must be on silent mode and remain the backpack for the entire period.

2nd option: Students will place their phones in the cell phone caddy storage area that can be found in each classroom. This is the preferred option, and student will receive incentives in certain classes for choosing this option.

If a student fails to meet one of the above options, and is found to be in possession of a phone during instructional time, he or she will be sent to the office and will have to turn in their phone for the remainder of the day and will be subject to additional consequences at the principal's discretion.

Failure to cooperatively turn in a cell phone will result in the student being sent home for a minimum of the remainder of the day. Subsequent infractions will lead to increased consequences.

Exceptions may be authorized by the principal or nurse for medical reasons. If there is an extenuating circumstance, the principal may issue a cell phone pass.