

OMS Cell Phone Policy

Cell phones, smart watches and any other communication devices may not be used while on campus. If you feel your child must have a cell phone, it must remain in their locker, **TURNED OFF** while at school. For those students who do not have a locker, then putting their phones in their backpacks is the next best choice. The use of mobile telephones or any device capable of capturing images is strictly prohibited in locker rooms or restroom areas while at school or at school-related or school-sponsored events. Any phone that is visible and on-site will be confiscated, logged and securely held until the end of the school day, at which point it can be collected by a parent or guardian. Students are to make after school travel arrangements **BEFORE** they arrive at school that day. The district is not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen electronic device.

A violation of these rules will have the following consequences per St. Clair County Schools Code of Conduct:

1st Offense

- Local administrator will confiscate device
- Student will be assigned consequences by local administration
- Parent will be required to retrieve the device

2nd Offense

- Local administrator will confiscate device
- Student will be assigned 1 day of Saturday School
- Parent will be required to retrieve the device

3rd Offense

- Local administrator will confiscate device
- Student will be assigned to a 1 day suspension
- Parent will be required to retrieve the device

4th Offense

- Local administrator will confiscate device
- Student will be placed in alternative school for 5 days/second assignment to alternative school will be 10 days/third assignment to alternative school will be limited to 20 days
- Parent will be required to retrieve the device

RESEARCH:

1. The mere presence of a cell phone may be distracting. This has implications for attention and task performance.
2. The attention and energy it takes to not check a phone seems to cause "brain drain."
3. Being off task due to texting and checking messages impacts student learning.