

Purpose and Philosophy

Excelsior Academy understands that cell phones and electronic devices (ED) are an important part of our culture. However, cell phones can be a major problem on school campuses and cause disruption of the educational environment. The school must maintain the integrity and security of the educational system and student privacy. The use of cell phones are an inconvenience to teachers who must stop teaching to correct the problem. The school's purpose is not the supervision of proper cell phone use.

A. Cell Phone/ED Use

1. Student use of cell phones/ED is prohibited in the school building between 7:40 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Cell phones/EDs are to be turned off completely and stored in a locker or backpack while in the student's possession at school. At no time (during the school day) are students permitted to carry a cell phone/ED on their clothing or backpack. When school has ended and a student has been excused from class, cell phone use is permitted in the hall as students leave the school.
2. The use of camera phones is strictly forbidden in locker rooms, washrooms, dressing areas, classrooms, and offices at any time. Such use may also be in violation of the criminal code.
3. Sending threatening, harassing, intimidating, offensive, vulgar, profane, obscene texts and/or photos, cyber bullying or coercive communication with others may result in disciplinary action taken and/or civil-criminal charges filed.
4. Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones. Excelsior Academy shall not assume responsibility for theft, loss, or damage of a cell phone, or unauthorized calls made on a cell phone. It is strongly suggested that student cell phones be left at home as this is the only sure way to avoid a potential policy violation.

B. Disciplinary Action

1. It is the students' responsibility to ensure that their cell phone/ED is turned off and in their locker/backpack during unauthorized times. Students who violate the above restrictions shall be deemed to have created a disruption to the instructional environment and are subject to disciplinary action.

C. Definitions

1. Uses may include: out-going calls, in-coming calls, text messaging, camera use, game playing, or any other use.
2. An ED may include: laser pointers and attachments, paging devices/beepers, and other devices designed to receive and send an electronic signal.
3. Excelsior Academy reserves the right to define the educational value of any new electronic device that may become available to the general public in the future and to prohibit their use

if they have little or no educational value or if such use creates learner distraction or disruption.

D. Emergencies

1. Parents should call the front office of the school for any emergency situation. We will contact your student. Do not try to contact them by cell phone/ECD.

This policy supersedes and replaces all previous cell phone policies and relevant policies of the school. This policy does not change the existing school Acceptable Use Policy.

References:

Policy Review Schedule (Reviewer): Assign date

Document History:

Proposed and adopted May 6, 2016

Board Chair

School Policy: