Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

Cell phone behavior is changing constantly. Mount Everett faculty and administration believe that it is the school district's responsibility to ensure students are provided with a safe and orderly environment in which effective teaching and learning can occur. The following process will ensure the achievement of the optimal classroom experience.

Students may bring cell phones and other kinds of portable communication devices on school grounds and at school-sponsored or school-related events or activities; except that students shall keep any such devices turned off and shall not use or operate any such device during the instructional day (during any class period, including Advisory). Students may use a school issued Chromebook or personal laptop for instructional purposes. The use of communication features that are obscene, offensive, threatening, or otherwise intended to harass or demean recipients is prohibited. This includes calling, texting, accessing mobile web, IMing, transmitting or accessing materials. Students must put cell phones away in a safe space until the end of class(es). We encourage students to "rack them up" in each class's preferred system to house cell phones. (For instance, in a vertical rack hanging in the classroom or on the teacher's desk.)

Students may utilize these devices during their lunch periods, during transitions (except Middle School; see middle school policy below), and before and after school. Cell phone use **IS NOT** permitted in bathrooms and locker rooms.

First Offense:

1. The device will be taken away and returned to the student at the end of the school day.
2. The student is warned of further consequences if behavior continues, and a parent phone call home made by faculty or staff that took the device away. The faculty or staff member relays this incident to the Secondary Assistant Principal for record keeping purposes.

Second Offense:

1. The device is taken away and returned to parent/guardian or other authorized adult who will need to pick it up during regular office hours 7:30 -3:30. The student will serve a detention period. A Secondary Administrator will make a phone call to the parent.

Third Offense:

1. The device is taken, parents are notified by a Secondary Administrator, and the student is not allowed to bring the device back on school grounds for 14 school days. Parents must come and retrieve the device during office hours 7:30 - 3:30. Consequences may include additional detentions, internal suspension, and/or other restorative practices depending on circumstances.

Electronic devices lost or stolen while at school are not the responsibility of the SBRSD.

The principal or his/her designee may, at his/her sole discretion, grant exceptions to the prohibition on the use of cell phones and other kinds of portable communication devices. The principal or his/her designee may require suitable documentation of a critical need for such an exemption before granting exemption.

Middle School:

Upon arrival in the morning, students must put their cell phones away before entering the middle school hallway at the top of the stairs. Homeroom teachers will collect and keep devices safely secured for morning instruction. Devices will be returned prior to lunch period but will not be used by students during lunch. Afternoon classes will require students to either put powered-off devices in a "parking lot" or student backpack.

Approved by SBRSD School Committee June 12, 2025