

# Barnhill Memorial School

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## **Policy Statement**

- Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices at school.

Research has shown that these devices (Cellphones, gaming systems, I-Pads, M3 players, Smart Watches, etc.) pose a major form of distraction in a school setting. Although, social media can have good uses, there are many cases where it is pervasive and unhealthy. There is the potential for violations of safety and privacy. It can also be means for harassment and bullying.

Many of our students do not get the opportunity to practice interpersonal skills due to increased amounts of "screen time." Electronics devices cut into student engagement in all settings of school life. Critical thinking and communication skills can be enhanced without the distraction of electronics.

Devices need to be kept at home. Parents can contact their children by calling the main line at the school and students can be paged at breaks to get the message. We will allow office phone use at breaks and lunch hour. Students will be given messages during class only in emergency situations.

## **Specific Actions**

If a student is found using or seen with an electronic device at school, the following procedure will be followed.

1. The device will be delivered to the office by the student.
2. In the office, the device will be logged in and kept in the safe
3. Parents /Guardians will be notified.
4. The office will be open until 4 pm each day for parents who need to retrieve confiscated devices. If a student is seen using a personal electronic device, the following procedure will be followed:

1<sup>st</sup> Occurrence: Parents/Guardians will be called, and the students will pick up the phone at the end of the day.

2<sup>nd</sup> Occurrence: Parents/Guardians will be called. They will be responsible for picking up the device at the office by 4 pm.

3<sup>rd</sup> Occurrence: Parents/Guardians will be called and will be responsible for picking up the device. A meeting will be scheduled with Administration, and an incident report will be entered in Power School.

4<sup>th</sup> Occurrence: Parents/Guardians will be called and will be responsible for picking up the device. Students will receive a one-day in-school suspension.