

# Smithton Community Consolidated School

## District No. 130, St. Clair County

316 SOUTH HICKORY STREET, POST OFFICE BOX 395, SMITHTON, IL 62285  
PHONE # (618) 233-6863 FAX # (618) 233-8413



December 9, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We depend on families to reinforce the importance of effort, attitude, and behavior with their children. It is critical that each student is familiar with teacher expectations and discipline guidelines at Smithton. The junior high teachers have been seeing certain behaviors in their classrooms that needed to be addressed. I met with the seventh and eighth grade classes today and wanted to share with you the topics I discussed.

Students are allowed to have cellphones in school. They need to be turned off and secured in their lockers. There are several students checking their phones in between class periods. When students are checking their phones and then questioned by a staff member, their response is often that they are responding to a message from their parents. We ask that if you have any information that your child needs to be made aware of during the school day that you please contact the main office. We will make sure your child receives the message. I reviewed the electronic devices policy with students as it is stated in the student handbook.

Students have been talking negatively about each other and even staff members and misconstruing the truth. I used the analogy of the game telephone and how messages or gossip can easily become distorted and veer from the truth. I pointed out the difference between a concern and rumor. A concern is something that a student should tell a trusted adult. A rumor is a story or statement that is passed around without confirmation of the truth. Comments have been made about teachers that are causing them to feel uncomfortable and targeted. I discussed harassment and gave them the definition of any unwanted behavior (physical or verbal) that makes a person feel humiliated or mentally distressed.

Some other behaviors that were addressed were saying inappropriate things when the teacher is turning his or her back to the classroom, doing something a student warrants as funny to get others to laugh or to seek some type of reaction in class, and using phrases in class that have a negative connotation but the teacher maybe unaware of the meaning (many of these phrases are from the urban dictionary or social media). Students are being asked to stop and given warnings and these behaviors are continuing. I explained what it means to be insubordinate and how that type of behavior can affect their classmates and their teachers.

We are very lucky to have such supportive families in our school community. I am hoping that opening this line of communication will help with these behaviors. I told students that if they

WORLD CLASS ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The mission of Smithton Community Consolidated School District #130, in partnership with the school community, is to inspire, support, and develop students by providing optimal resources, innovative instruction, character education, and the foundational skills needed for future personal success.

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had any questions or concerns to please reach out to me. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out - [sbelosi@sccsd130.com](mailto:sbelosi@sccsd130.com) or (618) 233-6863.

Your understanding and cooperation are appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Stacy Belosi*

Stacy Belosi, Principal