



Current

Home Street Middle School

Cell Phones, and other Electronic Devices

Home Street Middle School (HSMS) strongly discourages any students from bringing any Electronic device to school. HSMS will not be held liable for any damage/loss occurring to an Electronic device brought to campus.

Electronics may be used before/after school and during lunch and breaks provided the student is not in a school building or learning environment.

Keep in mind, the transportation division does not allow Electronics to be used on busses. Therefore, HSMS will not endorse the usage of Electronics on/in any district vehicles.

Cell phones and all other electronic devices need to be ***"off and away,"*** **prior to any student entering any school building, all devices must be put away and out of sight.** If an Electronic device is used inside, without permission, the student will be subject to an Electronic Device Violation.

- Exception: A teacher may allow students to use personal electronic devices in order to enhance the learning experience in each individual classroom.

If the policy is violated, the following will occur:

1st offense – phone is confiscated and will be returned at the end of the day.

2nd offense – phone is confiscated and will be returned to a parent, after successful completion of detention.

3rd offense – phone will be confiscated and will be returned to the parent only after the student has successfully attended Saturday School.

4th offense – phone will be confiscated until the end of the school year.

The video taping of, and/or posting on the Internet of, any fight involving Home Street students is considered cyber bullying is subject to district policy BP 5131 (c-f), and (CA Ed. Code 48900(r)). and student(s) using digital or electronic communication to cyberbully on campus, or off-campus that impacts school activity or attendance will be disciplined with consequences up to and including suspension. A student violating this policy may also be prohibited from possessing a mobile communications device.

Please review our policy with your children and discuss the responsible use of cell phones. Please report any misuse of this technology to school administration immediately. Together, we can continue to make Home Street Middle School a safe and wonderful place for students to prepare for success in high school and beyond.

HSMS Cell Phone Policy

"Not Seen / Not Heard"

Rationale for updating our policy:

In essence, we are asking for the board's support in reverting back to our previous cell phone policy. It has come to our attention that our students are able to use their "cell phone service" (and not our filtered wifi system) to access *anything* they would like to view while on campus during breaks and lunch. Some students use their cell phones to orchestrate meetings in the bathroom to vape during class time. Social media use through student cell phones has been the root cause of most fights on campus and it has recently come to our attention that students arrange fights and spread information regarding when and where to watch fights via their cell phones before our staff is even aware of a conflict.. Lastly, as soon as a fight begins, instead of doing the right thing and running for help, most students pull out their phones to record the fight so it can be posted on social media.

Summary:

Students that choose to bring their phones to school will need to keep their phones in their lockers for the duration of the school day where they won't be seen or heard. Phones will not be allowed to be used at break or lunch, nor will they be allowed to be carried on the student. Students will be allowed to use their phones to check for messages, etc., after the school day has ended and they have exited the school building.

If a student has a medical condition, with written permission from his / her physician, the student would be allowed to carry their cell phone (EC 48901.7).

Staff are in unanimous support of this policy. Our staff will be happy to support communication between students and their families during the school day by sending parent messages to students and allowing students to make necessary phone calls in the office.

This change in policy will be communicated to students and their families via the HSMS webpage, the HSMS Instagram site, the school bulletin, AERIES Communications, announcements read by Homeroom teachers and a parent/ student/ teacher signed contract.

- The first offense for a cell phone violation will be Saturday School.
- The second offense for a cell phone violation will be two Saturday Schools.
- The third offense for a cell phone violation will be an in school suspension.

Reward Fridays

The week that the Not Seen / Not Heard Cell Phone policy goes into effect, HSMS will also begin offering Reward Fridays. Every other Friday, Reward Fridays will be during the last 50 minutes of the school day. During this time, students that did not have any missing assignments, detentions, Saturday Schools or other discipline actions, will be invited to come outside for field games, to play games in a classroom or to watch a movie. Students that have had a discipline issue over the previous two week period and students that have missing assignments will be asked to come to a study hall classroom where they will receive support to make up their missing assignments.