

## Current Cell Phone Policy (for reference)

As per Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning, Grades 9 to 12 students are banned from cell phone use during class time and may be permitted to use cell phones during break times/lunch as well as for educational purposes, when directed by teachers.

Teachers will provide clear direction on the appropriate use of cell phones to support learning during class time. Teachers may require students to turn in phones during class and may confiscate a student's device if they deem it a distraction.

The teacher will return a confiscated cell phone to the student at the end of the class period, and they may issue a disciplinary consequence such as a minor infraction or a JUG for repeated offences.

The VPS will monitor students' discipline records and may issue further consequences in the event cell phone use becomes problematic, including limiting or prohibiting a student's cell phone use during the school day.

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## Revised Cell Phone Policy (Effective Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025)

In alignment with Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning guidelines, and informed by community feedback, this revised cell phone policy is designed to enhance safety, foster community, and minimize distractions to learning.

### Policy Overview

Grades 9 to 12 students are prohibited from cell phone use during class time unless explicitly directed by teachers for educational purposes. Students may use cell phones during breaks and lunch periods in designated areas.

### Policy Details

#### 1. Classroom Use:

- Teachers will provide clear direction on the appropriate use of cell phones to support learning during class time.
- Teachers may require students to turn in phones at the start of class and may confiscate a student's device if it becomes a distraction.
- Cell phones must remain out of sight and not be used during prayer and announcements.
- Confiscated devices will be returned to students at the end of the class period, with teachers issuing disciplinary consequences (e.g., Minor Infraction or JUG) as deemed appropriate.

#### 2. Cell Phones in Hallways During School Hours:

- Cell phone use is prohibited in hallways during the school day (8:30AM–3:15PM).
- This policy aims to reduce safety risks caused by distractions, encourage students to engage with their surroundings and peers, and prevent disruptions caused by students leaving class to check their phones.

### 3. Restricted Zones:

- Cell phones are strictly prohibited in locker rooms, change rooms, and washrooms.
- Students are not permitted to have their phones out or in use in these areas to maintain privacy and respect.

### 4. Signage:

- Clear signage will be posted in all restricted areas (e.g., hallways, locker rooms, washrooms) to reinforce expectations and ensure consistent understanding among students and staff.
- Signage will also clearly identify areas where cell phone use is permitted, including:
  - Aulneau Room
  - Student Links (at Student Entrance and Cass Gym)
  - Cafeteria
  - Holland Learning Centre (Library)
  - Loggia in the MultiPlex
  - Carpet runner in the MultiPlex along B55 and B56 classrooms.

Signage in Restricted Areas



Signage in Cell Phone Use Areas



### 5. Consequences for Non-Compliance:

- Teachers are expected to model the cell phone expectations we set for our students.
- Teachers should address cell phone misuse with disciplinary measures, such as Minor Infractions (MI) or JUG.
  - Standard Consequences:
    - JUG for cell phone use in locker rooms, change rooms, and washrooms.
    - Minor Infraction for cell phone use in hallways.
    - Teachers may use their discretion to issue a JUG for hallway use if a student is a repeat offender or if the nature of the offence warrants a JUG.
- Consistency across all teachers is essential for the policy's success. A collective team effort will ensure the discipline system is applied fairly and uniformly. This approach will improve tracking and help identify repeat offenders for early intervention.
- Teachers are encouraged to consult with the Vice Principal of Students (VPS) for additional consequences or strategies to address repeat offenders.
- For chronic misuse, the VPS may impose further restrictions, including limiting or prohibiting a student's cell phone use during the school day.