

W. R. Thomas Middle School

CELL PHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Parents who provide their child with cell phones or electronic devices should be aware of the following: Cell phones or any other electronic devices are prohibited during school hours. We encourage you to secure your electronics in a backpack. If an electronic device is VISIBLE during the school day, it will be confiscated by Administration. Students who possess a personal electronic device are solely responsible for its care.

“PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE” means any device that a student is in possession of which electronically communicates, sends, receives, stores, reproduces, or displays voice and/or text communication, media, or data. These include, but are not limited to cell phones, multimedia devices, pagers, smart phones, MP3 players, music and media players, headphones, ear buds/pods, speakers, and gaming devices.

Unauthorized use of personal electronic devices includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- If an electronic device is out during school day, it will be confiscated by Administration. Parent/Guardian will need to pick it up at the end of the school day (until 4:30 pm), devices will not be released to students.
- Possessing, viewing, sending, or sharing video, images, or audio information having sexual, violent, illegal, or threatening content on school grounds or during school sponsored events shall be prohibited and will result in disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the personal electronic device.
- Transmitting school materials for unethical purposes such as cheating.
- Any activity that may be in violation of WRT Bullying prevention policy and procedural directives.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE CONSEQUENCES

1st Offense – parent/guardian may retrieve the electronic device from the Main Office within thirty minutes of the start or end of the instructional day. Parent/guardians must sign the electronic device out from the log kept in the main office.

2nd Offense – parent/guardian may retrieve the electronic device no sooner than 7 days after its date of confiscation within thirty minutes of the start or end of instructional day. Parent/guardians must sign the electronic device out from the log kept in the main office.

3rd Offense - parent/guardian may retrieve the electronic device at the end of the semester in which the device was confiscated within thirty minutes of the start or end of instructional day.

Repeated violations will result in disciplinary action and removal from extra-curricular activities.

REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

Parents/guardians are advised not to contact students on their cell phones during the instructional day. Students will be allowed to use the Main Office phone during non-instructional time for emergencies only. NO STUDENT will be refused use of the office phone if the student needs to contact their parent or guardian.

