



SCHOOL POLICY ON THE USE OF CELL
PHONES IN THE SCHOOL
2024-2025

ABSTRACT

The AJHAE Governing Authority has determined to restrict the use of cell phones by students to support the school environment for our students to be able to engage fully with their classmates, their teachers, their teaching-learning process.

Dr. Israel Koppisch
Deputy Superintendent

Approved by the AJHAE Governing Authority on
its board meeting of June 15th, 2024



ANN JERKINS HARRIS ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE

SCHOOL POLICY ON THE USE OF CELL PHONES IN THE SCHOOL

Approved by the governing Authority on its board meeting of June 15th, 2024

At the Ann Jerkins-Harris: Academy of Excellence, we are proud to provide our students with the opportunity to learn alongside a diverse group of children and families who reflect the racial, cultural, and socio-economic diversity of communities surrounding our school. Our standards-based program provides an academically challenging, creative, and emotional supportive environment for our students and is designed to continually expand student's knowledge and understanding of concepts, ideas, and information.

I. RESEARCH:

Recent research shows that student use of cell phones in schools has negative effects on student performance and mental health. Cell phones distract students from classroom instruction, resulting in smaller learning gains and lower test scores. Increased cell phone use has led to higher levels of depression, anxiety, and other mental health disorders in children.



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the AJHAE is to understand the social, emotional, physical and academic needs of our students adopting a whole-child approach.



VISION STATEMENT

At the Ann Jerkins Harris Academy of Excellence, we support and stimulate an educational environment that nurtures the whole child and promotes individuals of excellence.

The AJHAE Governing Authority has determined to restrict the use of cell phones by students to support the school environment for our students to be able to engage fully with their classmates, their teachers, their teaching-learning process.

II. OBJECTIVE OF THE POLICY:

The objective of this policy is to strengthen AJHAE's focus on the teaching-learning process, in alignment with our mission and vision to ignite student's passion for learning, cultivate a strong foundation of knowledge, and foster a sense of community within our school and nurture the whole child while promoting individuals to reach out for excellence. In order to accomplish our school mission and vision an adequate learning environment must be promoted at all times.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to the use of cell phones by students while on school property and school buses during school hours.

IV. USE OF CELL PHONES

Students are prohibited from using cell phones AT ALL TIMES during school hours (including school buses).

V. EXCEPTION:

Nothing in this policy prohibits a student from using a cell phone for a purpose documented in the student's individualized education program developed under Chapter 3323 of the Ohio Revised Code or a plan developed under section 504 of the "Rehabilitation Act of 1973," 29 U.S.C. 794.

VI. CELL PHONE STORAGE:

Students shall keep their cell phones in a secure place, such as the student's locker, a closed backpack, or a storage device provided by the school, at all times when the cell phone is prohibited.

VII. DISCIPLINE:

If a student violates this policy, a teacher or administrator shall take the following progressively serious disciplinary measures:

- a. Give the student a verbal warning and require the student to store the student's cell phone in accordance with this policy.
- b. Securely store the student's cell phone in a teacher-or-administrator- controlled locker, bin, or drawer for the duration of the class or school day.
- c. Place the student's cell phone in the school's central office for the remainder of the school day.
- d. Place the student's cell phone in the school's central office to only be picked up by the student's parent or guardian.
- e. Schedule a conference with the student's parent or guardian to discuss the student's cell phone use during school hours.

