

## RANDOLPH COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM: CELL PHONE POLICY

This policy also applies to iPods, MP3 players, etc. \*\*

Randolph County School District policy allows the possession of telecommunications devices by students on campus during the regular school day. During the school day (defined as being from the time a student arrives on campus each morning until school is dismissed for the day), these devices also must be turned off and may not be used by students.

Cell phones, iPods, MP3 players, etc. must not be carried in a visible manner and should be kept out of sight. Not only are these devices a potential distraction to the classroom learning environment, but the technology available makes it possible for students to photograph and send copies of tests to other students, text message answers to test questions to other students, and otherwise compromise the integrity of our teachers' assessments and grading of student learning. The interpretation of the policy has been expanded to include iPods, MP3 players, etc. because so many telecommunications devices combine these features with those of a cell phone. Also, for safety reasons, while students are riding RCSS buses this policy is in effect just as if the student was in a classroom during the school day. The use of any electronic device is prohibited on the buses. There is no reason that a student should need to use a cell phone during the regular school day. In any instance requiring an emergency communication with a student, our school will immediately assist the student, a parent, or other responsible adult with that situation by using a school telephone.

Reason for Confiscation:

- a) The only reasons for school personnel to ask a student to surrender a cell phone, an iPod, or an MP3 player would be:  
if the cell phone rang or vibrated (which would mean that the phone was turned on, and in violation of the policy), or
- b) if school personnel saw the cell phone, iPod, or MP3 player (which would mean that the device was visible and in violation of the policy).

If a student is found to be in violation of the Cell Phone Policy, the device (cell phone, iPod, MP3 player, etc.) will be confiscated by school personnel.

Refusal by a student to surrender the device is not an option. Cell phones, iPods, MP3 players, etc. confiscated as a result will be returned to a parent or guardian the next business day between the hours 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. or 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense**-(Warning) Confiscated and turned over to an administrator – Device will be returned to student.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense**-(Warning) Confiscated and turned over to an administrator – Device will be returned to student.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense**-Device is taken up and turned in to the front office. Confiscated cell phones will be returned to a parent or guardian the next business day between the hours 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. or 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

**4<sup>th</sup> Offense**- (Failure to Comply) Device is taken up and turned in to the front office. Confiscated cell phones will be returned to a parent or guardian the next business day between the hours 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. or 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. 1 day of ISS

**5<sup>th</sup> Offense**- (Failure to Comply) Device is taken up and turned in to the front office. Confiscated cell phones will be returned to a parent or guardian the next business day between the hours 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. or 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. 3 days ISS.

**6<sup>th</sup> Offense**-(Failure to Comply) Student will lose his/her cell phone privileges for the remainder of the school year. If caught with cell phone, student will be suspended for 2 days. Any incidents after the suspension, student will be suspended for five days.

## STUDENT REFUSAL TO SURRENDER CELLPHONE AND ELECTRONIC DEVICE PROCEDURE

**Level 1:** If the student refuses to surrender the device immediately, a campus administrator will be called to assist and the student will be taken to an administrator's office. The administrator will attempt to convince the student to surrender the device. If the student does so, the device will be returned to a parent after 3 days. Additionally, the student will lose his or her device privileges for 10 days or the remainder of the school year.

**Level 2:** If the student refuses to surrender the device to the administrator, an attempt will be made to contact a parent to obtain assistance in convincing the student to surrender the device. If the student does so, the device will be returned to a parent after 20 days. As a result of having to call a parent to bring about compliance with the administrator's request, the student will serve three days ISS for non-compliance. Additionally, the student will lose his or her device privileges for 90 days or the remainder of the school year.

**Level 3:** If the student refuses to surrender the device and the administrator is unable to contact a parent, the student will be taken to In-School Suspension for the remainder of the school day. If the student does so, the device will be returned to a parent after 20 days. As a result of having to call a parent to bring about compliance with the administrator's request, the student will serve three days ISS for non-compliance. Additionally, the student will lose his or her device privileges for 90 days or the remainder of the school year.

**Level 4:** If the student still refuses to surrender the device after parent intervention, he or she will serve five days in ISS for non-compliance. Additionally, the student will forfeit his/her device privileges for the remainder of the school year.