West Central Cell Phone Policy

Proposed Policy for 2024-25 school year

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices

The use of electronic devices and other technology at school is a privilege, not a right. Students are prohibited from using electronic devices, except as provided herein. An electronic device includes, but is not limited to, the following: cell phone, smart phone, Apple Watch, audio or video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), iPod©, iPad©, laptop computer, tablet computer or other similar electronic device. Pocket pagers and other paging devices are not allowed on school property at any time, except with the express permission of the building principal.

Using a cellular telephone, recording device, iPod/iPad, personal digital assistant, or similar electronic devices in any manner that disrupts the education environment or violates the rights of others will result in disciplinary action (see below). Students are not allowed to take pictures and/or videotape without permission from a school staff member. All cell phones and similar electronic devices will not be allowed to be carried on their person or left in lockers. Cell phone lockers will be provided by the school district and every JH/HS student will be assigned a cell phone locker. Students will be responsible for their cell phone locker key. A \$10 fee will be charged to replace a lost key.

Disciplinary Actions:

- First offense-The device will be confiscated by school personnel. Parents/Guardian will be notified. The student may pick their phone up at the end of the day in the school office.
- Second offense –The device will be confiscated. A detention may be assigned. The student's parent/guardian will be notified and required to pick up the device in the school office.
- Third offense and beyond offense–Phone confiscated, meeting scheduled with parent/guardian prior to the phone being released from school possession, detention may be assigned and or an in-school suspension may be assigned.
- Additional violations may result in revocation of all cell phone privileges due to continued noncompliance, and may include additional consequences, including additional in-school suspension, loss of other student privileges as determined by administration, or out-of-school suspension.

The school and school district are not responsible for the loss, theft or damage to any electronic device brought to school.

Students may use cell phones when traveling to and from Winchester for class.