

# RESPONSIBLE AND ACCEPTABLE USAGE POLICY FOR CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

***Statement of trust: In recognizing the rapidly growing and changing usage and increase of technology usage across the world, it is necessary to teach students responsible and acceptable usage of technology items. There is a time and a place where these items are appropriate. The staff of Papillion-La Vista South High School seeks to empower students and in doing so, institutes the following policy:***

- Cellular phones and other electronic devices may be used during passing periods and during 5th hour in designated areas only.
- Signs will be posted reminding students of acceptable use areas and times.
- These items must be put away, silenced, and out of sight in all other locations and at all other times.
- Cell phone and other electronic device usage in classrooms **for curriculum related classwork** is at the discretion of each individual teacher. Students will be made aware of their teachers' expectations regarding these electronic devices. It is not appropriate to have a designated texting time in class to be used as a reward or otherwise.
- Study Hall plan: Study hall time is reserved specifically for studying. If a student chooses, he/she may listen to music at an appropriate level with earphones. At a point when technology is hindering other students or his/her studying, consequences will result.
- If a student is using a cell phone or electronic device in violation of school or classroom rules, the student will have the item confiscated and turned in to the school's security office. Students will be eligible to pick up their cell phone the following morning. If students request to have their cell phones at an earlier time, it is required that a parent/guardian come to school to claim the confiscated device or a plan for discipline is made with the grade level administrator. Failure to give the cell phone/device to any staff upon request will be considered insubordination resulting in disciplinary action.
- Inappropriate use includes: hallways & restrooms during class time, bypassing the nurse's office to leave school ill, cheating, cyberbullying, sexting, taking photos or video in places not appropriate, etc...
- Students must exercise recipient responsibility. Ex. A text received in class should not be checked or answered until passing period; Phones should not be used in areas of business such as the front office.
- Because 5 minutes of freedom is allowed each hour, no warnings will be issued if a student is in violation of responsible and acceptable use.
- For students who continue to have a device confiscated multiple times, repeated violations discipline procedures will be followed.
- Should referrals increase based on the responsible and acceptable technology policy, the administration of Papillion-La Vista South reserves the right to discontinue the "Responsible and Acceptable Usage Policy".