

**ALMOND-BANCROFT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Policy Handbook**

441.1

Cell Phone Policy

The Almond-Bancroft School District realizes that cell phone use is commonplace in today's society. However, as today's cell phones have a great capacity to send and receive information in audio, video, and text form, they present opportunities that are detrimental in nature. The use of cell phones has the potential to increase opportunities for cheating and harassment. Invasion of privacy is also an issue because of the ability of the phones to send pictures and video. Finally, the use of cell phones by students in the event of an emergency has the potential to interfere with the official flow of information. Because of the possible detrimental consequences of student cell phone use, the school district is limiting student cell phone use according to the following guidelines.

- Cell phones may be used before and after school, during passing times, and during lunch. Cell phones may also be used in class for instructional purposes under the direction of the teacher.
- Cell phones are prohibited in bathrooms and locker rooms at all times.
- Cell phones may never be used in manner that will cause disruption to the educational environment or invade the privacy of another individual.
- The school district will not be responsible for loss, damage, or theft of any electronic device brought to school.
- During school hours the use of cell phones are not permitted on field trips or other activities without permission from the school authorized supervisor/coach.
- For after school hours or overnight trips that include field trips, sporting events, or other activities will be at the discretion of the advisor/coach.

In the event of a district emergency, under the supervision of an authorized school official during the school day or outside the school day, cell phone use by students will be approved by the instructor/supervisor.

Consequences for Violating the Student Cell Phone Use Policy by using the cell phone at unauthorized times:

1st Offense: The cell phone will be confiscated by school personnel and taken to the principal. The student will receive a verbal warning and the cell phone will be held until the end of the instructional day.

2nd Offense: The cell phone will be confiscated by school personnel and taken to the principal. The student will be assigned a detention and the cell phone will be held until picked up by parent/guardian.

3rd Offense: The cell phone will be confiscated by school personnel and taken to the principal. The student will receive a half-day in-school suspension and the cell phone will be held until a parent/guardian is able to pick it up.

4th Offense: The cell phone will be confiscated by school personnel and taken to the principal. The student will receive a full day of in-school suspension and be subject to an offense of the co-curricular code. The cell phone will be held until a parent/guardian is able to pick it up.

Note: The consequences outlined above are for the use of the cell phone. Use of the cell phone in a manner that violates other school policies will carry additional consequences in accordance with the school discipline policy, including further suspension and possible expulsion. If the cell phone was used for illegal activity, the student will be referred to the authorities.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Section 118.258 Wisconsin Statutes

CROSS REFERENCE: Student Handbook

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